

University of East Anglia Wildlife Trail

Welcome to the UEA Wildlife Trail! Whether you are walking the dog, going for a jog, or taking a break from work, we hope you enjoy the walk. The habitats along the Trail are home to a large variety of fauna and flora. Follow the Trail through woodland, along river banks, across grass meadows and around UEA Broad. We hope that, wherever you join the Trail, there is something new for you to discover.

See map on reverse

Trail 1: Fen and Wet Woodland

Trail 1 sees the River Yare winding through the lush expanse of wet woodland to the south. There are a host of different species making their home in the boggy marshland and the willow trees. The marshland is coppiced regularly and



highland cattle will be grazing here from 2012 to maintain the habitat. Traditional reed cutting has been carried out on a rotational basis. The Trail on the west side of the river is open all year round offering a view over the UEA playing fields. For centuries the higher ground was used for livestock grazing. On the lower ground by the river there are ongoing problems with bank erosion. As the east bank is swampy you are advised to access this part of the Trail during the summer only. The route is

marked by a dotted line on the map. It is a beautiful and secluded walk. You will see many colourful dragonflies hum over the river and hear some of our visiting warbler species, such as the willow warbler, sing out from the trees. Otters have recently been spotted frisking in the river.

At dusk during the summer, keep an eye open for the flitting of bats. The warm air buzzes with insect activity, attracting the bats out of the woods at night, thus forming a bat roost run. A total of 6 species of bats have been recorded in this area, the most common being the Soprano Pipistrelle.

Earlham Park is to the north - a large area of open grassland owned by Norwich City Council. Earlham Hall dates back to the 16th century. It was the home of some illustrious residents, including the Gurney family, co-founders of Barclays Bank in the late 18th century and Elizabeth Fry, the famous social philanthropist and prison reformer. Norwich City Council acquired the building in 1925. It served as a maternity hospital during the war. The University now owns both the house and gardens.