

About Bushy Park

Bushy Park is the second largest Royal Park. Located near Hampton Court Palace, Bushy Park's mixture of woods, gardens, ponds and grassland makes it a fantastic place to enjoy wildlife with roaming herds of red and fallow deer. The Park is also home to the famous Chestnut Avenue, a formal Baroque Water Garden and the beautiful Diana Fountain.

The Park is open to everyone to enjoy. It offers space for a wide range of activities from observing nature, cycling, running, walking, fishing (by licence) or just doing nothing.

However, the Park contains several fragile ecosystems and is home to thousands of species of fauna and flora, many of which are rare and protected.

It is designated Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation.

Bushy Park is under increasing pressure from the increasing number of us who visit it every year. In the last 50 years, the Park has lost many species of wildlife, such as the water vole, grey partridge, and numerous wild flowers.

You can help to protect and conserve the Park and its wildlife for your next visit and for future generations.

Please Tread Lightly whatever you are doing in the Park by following the 9 Ways. Otherwise we may destroy the very thing we have come to enjoy.

Park Regulations

The eight Royal Parks have a common set of Regulations which set out what visitors should and shouldn't do.

This leaflet covers some of the Regulations that are particularly important for Bushy Park. Under these it is an offence to:

- o Cycle except on designated paths and roads
- o Fail to remove dog faeces
- o Worry or injure an animal or bird
- o Interfere with plants or fungi
- o Drop or leave litter, except in the bins
- o Light a fire (including barbecues)
- o Drive above the 20 mph speed limit
- o Climb or interfere with a tree
- o Feed or touch a deer
- o Fail to keep a dog under control or (where required) on a lead
- o Permit a dog to chase, worry or injure a deer or other animal

Tread Lightly In Bushy Park

9 ways

to help protect

the Park and its wildlife



	Issue	Why is it a problem	How you can help
1	Leaving litter	Encourages vermin; if eaten can kill deer and birds (five deer killed a year); is also anti-social.	Please take litter home with you or dispose of it in bins.
2	Barbecues and fires	Major fire risk; barbecues cause damage to trees and grassland.	Do not light barbecues or fires; please call the police immediately if you see one.
3	Removing chestnuts, flora and other objects	Chestnuts are important winter food for deer; removal of flora, fungi and wood upsets the biodiversity of the park.	Do not remove anything from the Park.
4	Disturbing fallen and dead wood	Damages the habitats of beetles and other insects, invertebrates and plants.	Please do not build dens, pile up, dislodge or remove wood.
5	Dumping of pets and plants	The contents of aquaria or garden ponds, spawn, tadpoles, terrapins, other pets upset the balance of native species.	Do not release any pets, plants or animals in the Park.
6	Dog waste	Bacteria and parasites are a health threat to wildlife and humans; nutrients damage acid grassland and wild flowers; dog waste is also anti-social.	Please pick up and dispose of dog waste in bins provided.
7	Uncontrolled dogs	Can kill, injure and disturb deer (six deer killed a year), swans, water fowl; scare nesting sky-larks; damage ponds.	Keep dogs on leads in designated areas and controlled at all times.
8	Off-road cycling	Damages grass land and paths through erosion; disturbs and stresses wildlife.	Cycle only on paths and tracks. Observe signs which indicate excluded areas.
9	Speeding traffic	Accidents kill five to ten deer per year; emissions damage flora; disturbs tranquillity.	Observe the 20 mph speed limit.