

The Local Nature Reserves (LNR's) in Cambridge are for both people and wildlife. Designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, these reserves help to protect some of the best wildlife habitats and geographical features across the City, whilst making an important contribution to the UK's biodiversity. The reserves provide an opportunity for people to study, learn about and enjoy nature on their doorstep.

Cambridge City Council works in partnership with the local community to manage this reserve. If you would like to assist in the management of this reserve or any of the other reserves across the city we would love to hear from you.

For more information about volunteering or any issue regarding Local Nature Reserves in Cambridge please contact:

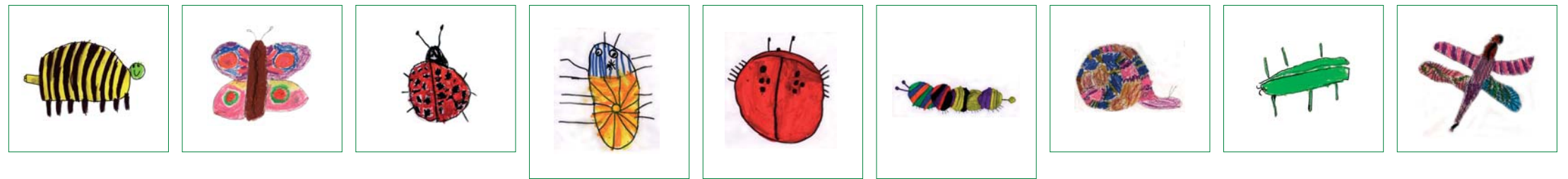
Cambridge LNR's
Cambridge City Council
Environment & Planning Department
The Guildhall
Cambridge
CB2 3QJ

Tel: 01223 457000
E-mail: lnr@cambridge.gov.uk
Or visit: <http://lnr.cambridge.gov.uk/>

Working in Partnership to manage Local Nature Reserves for people and wildlife



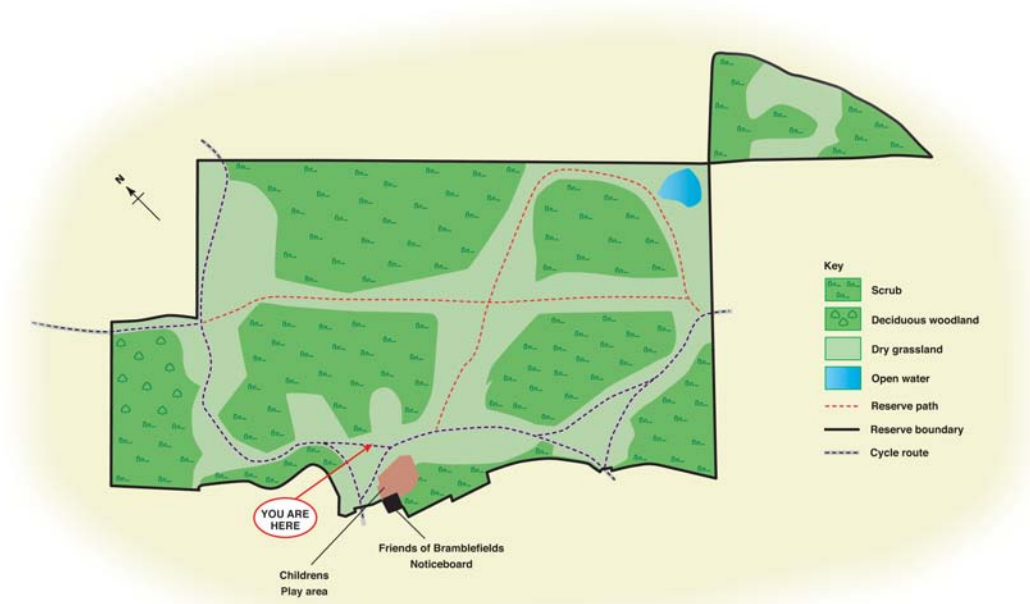
Illustrations courtesy of Wildlife Trust



Logo' designed by pupils from Shirley Infant School.

Welcome to Bramblefields LNR

At the turn of the 20th Century this region was fen and farmland. More recently it was used as allotments but these were abandoned after poor yields. Today Bramblefields provides an idyllic haven for wildlife and people in the midst of a residential area. Local Nature Reserve status has helped safeguard the site from future development and with it a commitment to protecting its wildlife and community value.



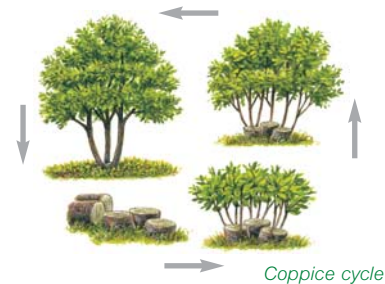
The dominance of **Bramble** and **Hawthorn** provide important nectar sources in early spring for a variety of insects. This in turn provides a good supply of food for breeding birds including **Blackcaps**, **Chiffchaffs** and **Blackbirds**. In autumn the abundance of berries attracts **Redwings** and **Fieldfares**.



Bramblefields is an important refuge for breeding birds with many Red listed species, whose numbers have declined by more than 50% over the last 25 years, including **House Sparrows**, **Starlings**, **Song Thrushes** and **Bullfinches**.

Though many mammals use the reserve there is little evidence of their activity with the exception of the distinctive musty smell of **Foxes** who visit the reserve to hunt.

The fluctuations in the level of water in the small pond provide ideal conditions for breeding amphibians and insects such as the **Broad Bodied Chaser Dragonfly**. The pond is



carefully managed to benefit these species by maintaining areas of open water.



Emperor Moth laying eggs on bramble

A mosaic of habitats is maintained through the rotational coppicing of trees and leaving areas of grasses and tall herbs uncut. To ensure the growth of new blackberries areas of bramble are also rotationally managed.

