



Task Days Programme January to March 2018

KTAT Knighton Tree Allotments Trust is a voluntary organisation that manages woodlands for the benefit of wildlife and our members. In coming together to share and learn woodland skills, we aim to manage woodland sustainably and to allow our members access to affordable woodland products - such as firewood and timber. This is our programme of task days for January to March 2018.

It is a common misconception that untouched woodland is always best for wildlife. In fact, by managing the woodland through traditional practices such as coppicing, we increase the variety of habitats and increase the richness of wildlife. In ensuring that the trees that we fell for fuel or timber are re-grown or replaced with new plants, we are creating a sustainable supply of woodland products.

Trees need to be coppiced (cut back almost to ground level then re-grown) or felled when they are dormant and we need to be careful not to disturb nesting birds. For these reasons, most woodland work is carried out in autumn and winter. Summer is a time of clearing up from our winter work, keeping newly planted trees free from weeds and cutting cordwood (4 foot long pieces of wood) into logs.

Volunteers work at their own pace and KTAT provides all the tools and training needed. We go out to various local woodlands one day a week, usually alternating between Thursdays and Sundays, and volunteers choose how much of the day to stay for. So come and learn new skills while helping wildlife.

Sunday 21st January – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

Coppicing hazel trees in a young woodland. By cutting the trees back to almost ground level we can harvest a crop of wood products and encourage trees to vigorously re-grow from the remaining stool – ready for future harvests. By coppicing a different part of the woodland each year we will be increasing the variety of habitats and allowing more light to the woodland floor in the areas that we cut. We are also thinning birch trees to favour the hazel coppice and the other trees in the wood - oak, rowan, beech, willow and ash.

Thursday 25th January – 9.15am to approximately 2.30pm

Coppicing hazel trees in a young woodland and thinning birch trees. See Sunday 21st January for details.

Sunday 4th February – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

A few trees have been felled in this small woodland as part of a thinning process. The felled trees need to be cut into cordwood (4 foot lengths) and the brash (small tops and side branches) put into small piles as habitat for wildlife. The cordwood will be carried out of the wood and stacked to season for firewood.

Thursday 8th February – 9.15am to approximately 2.30pm

A few trees have been felled in this small woodland as part of a thinning process. The felled trees need to be cut into cordwood (4 foot lengths) and the brash (small tops and side branches) put into small piles as habitat for wildlife. The cordwood will be carried out of the wood and stacked to season to season for firewood.

Saturday 10th February – 10am to 1pm

Tree planting. This is a public event open to all ages. We will carry out the necessary tree planting and promote the work of KTAT to a wider audience.

Sunday 18th February – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

Coppicing hazel trees in a young woodland and thinning birch trees. See Sunday 21st January for details.

Thursday 22nd February – 9.15am to approximately 2.30pm

Coppicing hazel trees in a young woodland and thinning birch trees. See Sunday 21st January for details.

Saturday 24th February – 10am to 1pm

Tree planting. This is a public event open to all ages. We will carry out the necessary tree planting and promote the work of KTAT to a wider audience.

Sunday 4th March – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

Coppicing hazel trees in a young woodland and thinning birch trees. See Sunday 21st January for details.

Thursday 8th March – 9.15am to approximately 2.30pm

Coppicing hazel trees in a young woodland and thinning birch trees. See Sunday 21st January for details.

Sunday 18th March – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

Coppicing hazel trees in a young woodland and thinning birch trees. See Sunday 21st January for details.

Thursday 22nd March – 9.15am to approximately 2.30pm

Coppicing hazel trees in a young woodland and thinning birch trees. See Sunday 21st January for details.

For more information please contact woodland@tveg.org.uk or 01547 520374

<http://tveg.org.uk/wordpress/what-we-do/woodland-project>