

Knighton Tree Allotments Trust Task Days Programme April to May 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 April to May 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 15th April – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

Our final coppicing activity of this season is cutting hazel products in this young woodland. We will be cutting firewood, hedging stakes and beanpoles from hazel stems that were felled last month.

Thursday 19th April – 9.15am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be cutting cordwood (4' lengths of smaller diameter wood) and rounds (sections of trunk and larger branches) into logs and then stacking them to continue the seasoning process. We will also be weeding around the newly planted trees to make sure that grass, bracken, etc., do not take water and nutrients from the trees.

Please note that there is a series of consecutive task days this week in order to move, cut and distribute firewood from a site that we have limited access to:

Sunday 29th April – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be moving all of our seasoned firewood into the car park and cutting cordwood into logs ready for Volunteer Members to collect.

Monday 30th April – 8am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be moving all of our seasoned firewood into the car park and cutting cordwood into logs ready for Volunteer Members to collect.

Tuesday 1st May – 9.15am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be cutting cordwood into logs ready for Volunteer Members to collect.

Wednesday 2nd May – 9.15am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be cutting cordwood into logs ready for Volunteer Members to collect.

Thursday 3rd May – 9.15am to approximately 2.30pm – to be confirmed

We will be cutting cordwood into logs ready for Volunteer Members to collect.

Sunday 13th May – 9.15am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be cutting cordwood (4' lengths of smaller diameter wood) and rounds (sections of trunk and larger branches) into logs and then stacking them to continue the seasoning process.

Thursday 17th May – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be extracting the timber from the woodland that has arisen from thinning the birch trees over the winter. We will also be cutting this timber into logs and stacking it to season.

Sunday 27th May – 9.15am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be extracting the timber from the woodland that has arisen from thinning the birch trees over the winter. We will also be cutting this timber into logs and stacking it to season.

Thursday 31st May – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm – to be confirmed

We will be extracting the timber from the woodland that has arisen from thinning the birch trees over the winter. We will also be cutting this timber into logs and stacking it to season.

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

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