

Task Days Programme – April to September 2019

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 September 2019.



Please note that this programme is subject to change – always contact KTAT before going to a wood to ensure that a task day is going ahead as planned.

It is a common misconception that unmanaged woodland is always best for wildlife. In fact, different species have different needs. By managing woodlands through traditional practices such as coppicing, we can make woodlands more open and benefit a range of flowering plants, birds, insects and other species. 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!

Thursday 4th April – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be weeding around the young trees to make sure that grass, bracken, etc., do not take water and nutrients from the trees.

Sunday 14th April – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be extracting the timber 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. The cordwood will be cut to log length using a chainsaw, with larger diameter pieces also split with axes. The logs will be stacked onto pallets, and a cover placed on top, to continue the seasoning process.

Thursday 18th April – 9am to approximately 4pm – PLEASE NOTE DIFFERENT START AND FINISH TIMES

We will be moving all of our cordwood from the edge of the site and into the car park, then cutting it into logs ready for Volunteer Members to collect.

Sunday 28th April – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be extracting the timber 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. The cordwood will be cut to log length using a chainsaw, with larger diameter pieces also split with axes. The logs will be stacked onto pallets, and a cover placed on top, to continue the seasoning process.

Thursday 2nd May – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be extracting the timber that has arisen from thinning the birch trees over the winter. We will also be cutting cordwood into logs and stacking it to season. Please see Sunday 28th April for details.

Sunday 12th May – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be extracting the timber that has arisen from thinning the birch trees over the winter. We will also be cutting cordwood into logs and stacking it to season. Please see Sunday 28th April for details.

Thursday 16th May – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be extracting the timber that has arisen from thinning the birch trees over the winter. We also will be cutting cordwood into logs and stacking it to season. Please see Sunday 28th April for details.

Sunday 26th May – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be extracting the timber that has arisen from thinning the birch trees over the winter. We also will be cutting cordwood into logs and stacking it to season. Please see Sunday 28th April for details.

Thursday 30th May – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will either be extracting the timber from one wood ready for Volunteer Members to collect, or cutting cordwood into logs and stacking it to season at a different wood.

Sunday 2nd June – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will either be extracting the timber from one wood ready for Volunteer Members to collect, or cutting cordwood into logs and stacking it to season at a different wood.

Thursday 6th June – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will either be extracting the timber from one wood ready for Volunteer Members to collect, or cutting cordwood into logs and stacking it to season at a different wood.

Sunday 16th June – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be cutting cordwood into logs and stacking it to season. Please see Sunday 28th April for details.

Thursday 20th June – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be cutting cordwood into logs and stacking it to season. Please see Sunday 28th April for details.

Sunday 30th June – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be cutting cordwood into logs and stacking it to season. Please see Sunday 28th April for details.

Thursday 4th July – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be carrying out our second weeding around young trees to make sure that grass, bracken, etc., do not take water and nutrients from the trees.

Sunday 14th July – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

Tool inventory day – checking, sharpening and generally maintaining our tools. We will also be cutting cordwood into logs and stacking it to season - please see Sunday 28th April for details.

Thursday 18th July – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be cutting cordwood into logs and stacking it to season. Please see Sunday 28th April for details.

Sunday 28th July – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be cutting cordwood into logs and stacking it to season. Please see Sunday 28th April for details.

Thursday 1st August – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

We will be cutting cordwood into logs and stacking it to season. Please see Sunday 28th April for details.

Please note that there are no other task days in August.

Sunday 8th September – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

Thinning birch trees in a young woodland. Now that the nesting season is over, we can reduce the number of birch trees to favour the hazel coppice and the other trees in the wood - oak, rowan, beech, willow and ash. We do not want the birch to grow back so we can cut them when they are in leaf. The birch will be felled, cut to cordwood and extracted to start the seasoning process.

Thursday 12th September – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

Thinning birch trees in a young woodland. Please see Sunday 8th September for details.

Sunday 22nd September – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

Thinning birch trees in a young woodland. Please see Sunday 8th September for details.

Thursday 26th September – 9.30am to approximately 2.30pm

Thinning birch trees in a young woodland. Please see Sunday 8th September for details.

For more information please contact woodland@tveg.org.uk or 01547 520374
<http://tveg.org.uk/wordpress/what-we-do/woodland-project>