

DON'T MOW, let it grow

WHY IT IS ESSENTIAL TO 'DON'T MOW, LET IT GROW'

Did you know that grasses and native wildflowers allowed to flourish will provide homes and feeding for important pollinators such as bees and butterflies? Pollinators play a key role in crop production, providing an important service for everyone.

Natural grassland management is vital - Don't Mow Let It Grow

manages over 40 sites on road verges and in council parks. This partnership project, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, is supported by a team of volunteers who help make these areas thrive.

Volunteers are essential for the day to day management of this project. YOU can help make a difference, visit our website to find out how.

Visit dontmowletitgrow.com

to learn more about the project and how to get involved

PORTANEEVY



Knapweed at Portaneevy

Portaneevy is a rich oasis of plants and buzzing insects. An array of typical coastal species are found here throughout the summer including birds-foot trefoil and kidney vetch in early summer. Later in July there is a riot of harebells, knapweed, bush vetch and meadow vetchling, especially along the roadside.

CHANGE A LITTLE, IMPROVE A LOT

Small changes in management give big benefits to biodiversity & ecosystem services

SEEN AT PORTANEEVY



6-spot burnet



Meadow vetchling

SEEN WITHIN THE PROJECT



7-spot ladybird



Common spotted orchid



White-tailed bumblebee



Yellow rattle

Small tortoiseshell



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RAMORE HEAD



Harebells at Ramore Head

The windswept nature of Ramore Head means the flowers here tend to be low growing and hug the basalt. If you brave this windy headland you will be rewarded with a colourful variety of wildflowers. These include kidney vetch, knapweed, bell heather, thrift, harebells, field gentian. On calmer, sunny days bumblebees and butterflies are present. In spring parts of the headland turn blue with the emergence of the spring squill.

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SEEN AT RAMORE HEAD



Hoverflies



Thrift

SEEN WITHIN THE PROJECT



7-spot ladybird



Common spotted orchid



White-tailed bumblebee



Yellow rattle

Small tortoiseshell



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BACKBURN PARK



Cuckoo flowers at Backburn Park

There are two areas of marshy grassland within the park being managed as part of this project and both should improve over time. These areas are filled with wet loving species such as cuckoo flower, rushes, marsh bedstraw, marsh foxtail and tall fescue. On sunny days ringlet butterflies and common carder bumblebees can be seen.

SEEN AT BACKBURN PARK



Ringlet butterfly



Ragged robin

SEEN WITHIN THE PROJECT



7-spot ladybird



Common spotted orchid



White-tailed bumblebee



Yellow rattle

Small tortoiseshell



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RIVERSIDE PARK



Orchids at Riverside Park

Riverside Park has a diverse array of habitats including meadows, woodland glades and the Ballymoney River. There are five areas managed as hay meadows which are filled with a variety of wildflowers including tufted and bush vetch, yellow rattle, knapweed, cuckoo flower and common spotted orchid. These provide a great resource for pollinators including an array of bumblebees, hoverflies and butterflies. There is always something to see in the meadows from spring to autumn.

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SEEN AT RIVERSIDE PARK



Hoverflies



Cuckoo flower

SEEN WITHIN THE PROJECT



7-spot ladybird



Common spotted orchid



White-tailed bumblebee



Yellow rattle

Small tortoiseshell

