



Top 5 Wildlife Projects!

The North York Moors Coast and Hills LEADER Programme has funded more than 300 projects in rural areas over the past five years. Many of these projects are interesting and unique; help us celebrate their success with the second in a series of project top 5s! Find out more at www.moorscoastandhills.org.uk

Middleton Pond

Middleton Pond, near Pickering, can be traced back to at least 1854 when it was thought to be used as a source of water for livestock and passing cart horses. By 2011 this historic pond had fallen into disrepair. A new clay lining, the removal of excess silt and addition of water plants have created a rejuvenated wildlife pond.



Cornfield Flowers Project

Throughout the countryside cornfield flowers have all but disappeared, but help from LEADER has raised a glimmer of hope. This final phase of the project has worked with individuals and schools to nurture and grow cornfield flowers. The seeds from these plants are planted at participating farms and a small number are preserved in the Millennium Seed Bank, Kew Gardens.



Pearl Mussel and Salmon Recovery

The pearl mussels in the River Esk are the last surviving population in Yorkshire, and only a few individuals are left. The mussels rely on Salmon for survival as part of their complicated life cycle. This project aims to improve the habitat of the river for both mussels and salmon using river restoration techniques and a captive breeding programme.



Johnsons Marsh

This project was developed by Scarborough Birders to create wildlife ponds and wetland in a boggy part of a field. The material excavated from the ponds was seeded with native wildflowers. The area is regularly visited by waders and water birds including grey heron. The ponds are on farmland and you can bird watch from the A165 at grid ref TA 023914.



Honeybee Conservation

The black honeybee population in the Whitby area have been given a boost by the provision of 30 new starter bee hives. The black honeybees have been carefully nurtured over the last 15 years as they have a natural tolerance to the varroa mite. One new hive of honeybees were given the opportunity to move to Buckingham Palace where they now make honey for the Queen!



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