



BTCV Scotland



# Learn about Biodiversity with BTCV!

This year BTCV Scotland has added new Biodiversity Courses to its Environmental Training Programme. From bees to bryophytes and lichen to hoverflies, we will have a course to interest you -



1 May	Invasive Flora Control & Management
8 May	Introduction to Biodiversity
29 May	Introduction to Hymenoptera
11/12 June	Introduction to Invertebrate Conservation
24 July	Introduction to Farmland Wildlife & Habitats
31 July	Introduction to Hoverfly Identification
28 August	Introduction to Bryophytes
4 September	Fungi Foray
2 October	Introduction to Lichens

Course descriptions can be found over the page. One day courses costs £92 and a two day course costs £138. However if you are a member of one of BTCV's Full Paying CLAN Groups you can access these courses with a **50% discount!**

**To find out more or to book on a course call Helen Paul on 01786 479697 or email her on [Scotland-training@btcv.org.uk](mailto:Scotland-training@btcv.org.uk)**

**To find out more about your group becoming Full Paying CLAN members call Graham Burns on 0141 956 6816 or email him on [CLAN@btcv.org.uk](mailto:CLAN@btcv.org.uk)**



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## **Invasive flora control and management May 1<sup>st</sup>**

This introductory course aims to look at what defines an invasive species, which invasive floral species are causing the greatest concern, what are the management options for these species and what successful projects have there been in the past and what we can learn from these. We will also learn about the funding options available for the management and control of invasive flora.

## **Introduction to biodiversity May 8<sup>th</sup>**

During the course, you will learn about the importance of Biodiversity and how it can be used to stimulate communities into protecting their local patch. You will also gain skills in event planning, community engagement and recording wildlife. There will also be an opportunity to get your feet wet with a pond-dipping session and other outdoor identification activities.

## **Introduction to hymenoptera May 29<sup>th</sup>**

The aim of this course is to give an introduction to the Hymenoptera (Bees, Wasps, Ants and their allies). The morning session will cover how to recognise Hymenoptera with an introduction to identifying specimens using microscopes and keys. Habitats requirements and conservation issues will be highlighted along with easy steps to help conserve your local Hymenoptera. The afternoon session will involve a field excursion to find out how to look for Hymenoptera in the field and see them in their natural environment.

## **Introduction to invertebrate conservation June 11/12<sup>th</sup>**

This two day course will teach you about the importance of Invertebrates and the habitats that support them. You will gain basic identification skills, learn survey methods as well as field skills essential for sampling and identifying invertebrates. You will also gain an understanding of proper habitat management for invertebrates.

## **Introduction to farmland wildlife and habitats July 24<sup>th</sup>**

The aim of this course is to introduce the concept of farmland conservation. The morning will centre on group activities and discussions to highlight the main farming types in Scotland and the different environmental issues associated with them. You will also look at the way in which target species and habitats may be managed. There will be a presentation on the SRDP to outline the agri-environment schemes in place that currently influence much of farmers' conservation practises. In the afternoon, we will take a walk around a farm to see conservation in action and discuss the ways in which the farming practices are benefitting wildlife.

## **Introduction to hoverfly identification July 31<sup>st</sup>**

This course will give you the skills to identify Common Hoverflies including looking at their life-cycle stages and what they eat in your garden. You will gain an understanding of their importance within an ecosystem and how to manage habitats to sustain them.

## **Introduction to bryophytes on August 28<sup>th</sup>**

Did you know that Scotland home to 5% of the world's bryophytes? Learn to appreciate the beauty of the hidden gems of the plant world. You'll learn to identify some of the more common Scottish species, the types of habitats where they're found and their wider role in our ecosystem.

## **Fungi foray September 4<sup>th</sup>**

This course aims to give a fun and practical beginners guide to fungi and to understand what fungi is, why it is important and how to being to identify fungi in the field.

## **Introduction to lichens October 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Did you know that Scotland is a hot spot for lichen biodiversity? This course will introduce you to one of Scotland's most fascinating species, you'll learn what lichens are and how they grow, how to identify common species and the diverse habitats they occupy and also about their wider role in our ecosystem.

