

## **Information for visitors on tree works**

Marston Marshes are owned by Norwich City Council and managed by Norwich Fringe Project, often with the help of volunteers.

Soon we will start some vital pollarding work on some of the willow trees.

### **What the work involves**

Pollarding is a traditional technique that involves lopping off large branches from the tree trunk. The following year, the tree starts to grow a new crown of branches. Many of the willows at Marston Marshes have already been pollarded several times during their lives.

While pollarding appears dramatic, it actually prolongs tree life. If they are not pollarded, willows often split apart or collapse due to the weight of their own branches, which is already starting to happen to some of the larger willow trees.

It also helps wildlife by encouraging the tree to produce fresh bushy growth, ideal for insects and nesting birds. Old pollarded willows are extremely valuable for wildlife as they develop features such as rot holes, cracks and crevices, used by insects, birds, roosting bats and other small animals.

We aim to ensure that our work does not affect your enjoyment of Marston Marshes.

## **Visitors can help by:**

- observing any health and safety signs and keeping away from areas where the contractors are working – this is for your own safety
- keeping dogs under close control, especially when passing near to areas where the contractors are working

## **For further information or to discuss the work please contact:**

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