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Climate and Environment NEWS AND UPDATES

12 February 2025



Get involved in National Nestbox Week

National Nestbox Week (14-21 February) is a chance to focus on how we can support declining bird species by providing safe breeding spaces in our gardens. Led by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), the week highlights practical steps like choosing the right nestbox for different species and locations, where to put it, and how to maintain it.

[Find out more and get involved](#)



Encourage your local school to become a Wiltshire Biodiversity Champion

We've worked with idverde UK to launch a new Wiltshire Biodiversity Champions initiative, helping schools, nurseries, and youth groups create greener, more wildlife friendly spaces.

By signing up, settings will receive practical support to:

- Create habitats for local wildlife
- Boost biodiversity on their grounds
- Inspire young eco leaders
- Build nature into everyday learning

If you know a local school or nursery, please encourage them to join the initiative. A quick message to the headteacher or setting manager could inspire a whole new wave of nature friendly action.

[Find out more](#)



New webpage launched: Waste - Let's sort it together

We're pleased to announce the launch of our brand new webpage, Waste: Let's sort it together, created to help everyone in Wiltshire reduce waste, recycle more, and make simple everyday choices that protect our environment.

The new page brings together practical tips and resources on how to reduce, reuse and recycle, all tailored to life in Wiltshire.

Whether you're already a keen recycler or just getting started, this page is designed to make sustainable living easier for everyone.

Let's work together to keep Wiltshire clean, green and thriving.

[Find out more](#)



Help shape Wiltshire's future energy plans

Residents are being invited to share their views on how renewable energy could work locally as part of the Future Energy Landscapes (FEL) project.

The project is exploring how Wiltshire can meet future energy needs in a way that is sustainable, locally appropriate and shaped by communities themselves. As part of this work, residents are being asked to take part in short online surveys linked to local pilot areas.

Feedback from the surveys will help inform discussions about renewable energy, energy use and keeping homes warm, and ensure local priorities and concerns are reflected as the project develops.

You don't need to attend an event to take part - anyone with a connection to the pilot area can share their views online.

[Find out more and take the survey](#)



How bad are bananas? Find out more about everyday carbon footprints

Ever wondered what the carbon footprint of everyday tasks is?

A generously filled bath = 1.6kg CO2e

Vs

Five minutes showering = 0.25kg CO2e

Shorter, more efficient showers can save a family 230kg CO2e a year – and about £400. For the same impact as a full bath from an efficient gas boiler, you could have a 15-minute shower.

A takeaway curry (four-person meat/prawn) = 24 kg CO2e

Vs

A takeaway curry (four-person veggie) = 4 kg CO2e

Meat production is generally far more emissions intensive than vegetarian options. This is due to direct methane emissions (burps) produced by livestock, and the substantial amounts of water, feed, and time required to raise these animals.

You don't need to go fully vegan, but you can significantly reduce your carbon footprint by choosing to eat meat less. And if you do want meat, chicken is the least carbon-intensive option.

[Find out more](#)



Tackling fire risks in residential areas

Environmental Protection officers have recently been dealing with a substantial accumulation of wood stored in a residential back garden near Malmesbury. The sheer volume of material created a clear and significant fire hazard, posing a risk to neighbouring homes and the wider community.

To address the matter, we first issued a Community Protection Warning in an effort to encourage voluntary action. When no progress was made, the situation was escalated and a Community Protection Notice (CPN) was formally served, requiring the residents to remove or properly manage the wood to reduce the risk.

We hope that the issuing of the CPN will prompt compliance and ensure the safety of the surrounding area. This case highlights how unmanaged materials can quickly become hazardous and the importance of acting promptly when concerns are raised.

[Find out more about rubbish and recycling options](#)

Other news

Here's a round-up of our other news and updates.

- [Wiltshire council welcomes national Warm Homes Plan as it accelerates local home energy upgrades](#)
- [Wiltshire Council encourages residents to join the Great British Spring Clean 2026](#)
- [Rogue trader fined for misleading sales tactics in Calne](#)
- [Communities helping shape Wiltshire's renewable energy future](#)
- [Council awarded £169,000 from Active Travel England to help encourage more walking and cycling](#)

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