

Sunday 18th February

Scrub Bashing

at

Sandlands (near Howsham)

Meet at the roadside (map enclosed) at 10.30am.

Finish time flexible – you can work until 3.00pm if you want to or come along for a couple of hours.



What are we doing ?

The aim is to cut and burn (weather permitting) as much as possible of the willow scrub that is encroaching the site.



Local children visit Sandlands to learn about ecology and surveying.

Why are we doing this ?

The work is required to conserve and hopefully enhance the floral diversity of the Fen Meadow. The landowners have committed to removal of spruce trees that were planted on the site 15 years ago. We are helping by clearing the willow that has started to colonise the spruce-free parts of the site.

What is the plan for the day ?

We will **meet** on the road-verge for the 5 minute walk to the site. Liz will tell you about the long-term aims for the site and the reasons for the scrub clearance.

Once you have had a chance to ask questions we will then crack on with the light-weight **scrub clearance**. Subject to weather/water-levels we aim to burn the material that we fell.

Lunch will be taken on site. Please bring packed lunches and warm drinks - **we will provide cakes (for a little extra energy!)**

There are no toilet facilities close by. Thick spruce woodland provides the only cover.

A list of what you need to bring is provided overleaf

Many hands will make the project achievable so please come and lend yours.

Please let us know if you are likely to be joining us.

For all outdoor activities you will need to bring:

- Waterproof clothing
- Warm clothing (one more layer than you think you'll need)
- Strong boots or wellies – steel toe-caps are advised for tools based tasks
- Gloves
- Lunch
- Hot and cold drinks
- Warm hat

If you have them please also bring:

- Secateurs
- Loppers
- Bowsaws

Additional tools and safety equipment will be provided by North Yorkshire County Council.

You are advised not to wear shorts and to bring a long-sleeved top with you.

An on site Health and Safety briefing and explanation of the task will be provided prior to practical work commencing.



If you have any questions about the activity please do not hesitate to contact Liz or Dave.

Please confirm by Friday 9th February if you are likely to be attending. You can let Liz or Dave know.

Dave Ranner (Volunteer Co-ordinator)
North Yorkshire County Council
County Hall
Northallerton
North Yorkshire
DL7 8AH
Tel: 01609 780780
E-mail: David.Ranner@northyorks.gov.uk

Liz Bassindale (Assistant AONB Officer)
Tel: 01653 627164
E-mail: liz.bassindale@northyorks.gov.uk

**Howardian
Hills**

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Volunteer Task

**Scrub Clearance and
Fen Meadow Restoration
at Sandlands**

Sunday 18th February 2007

