

Nature Walk for Elm Wood Nature Reserve

Improve your physical and mental health with this gentle walk around Elm Wood. The nature reserve forms a major part of the Green Wedge into Derby City between Spondon and Chaddesden.

Nature to be seen includes

(Wildlife to be seen will depending on seasons and weather)

Birds: Buzzards, blue tits, greater spotted woodpecker and sparrow hawks

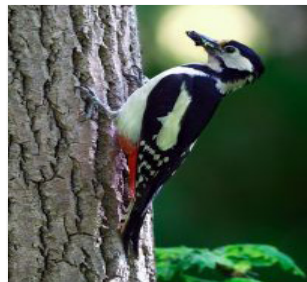
Trees and flowers: Horse chestnut tree, blue bells, fungi, hawthorn, elm and blackthorn.

Animals: Bats, speckled wood butterfly, insects, grey squirrel and small mammals.

Let us know the wildlife you see on your walk

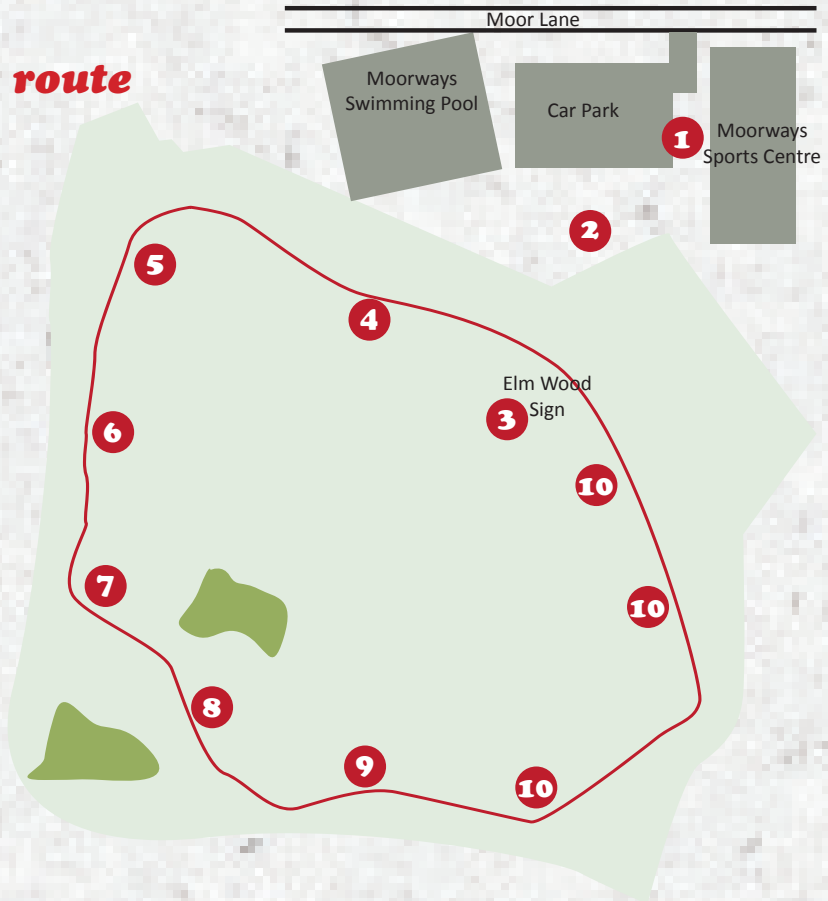
Follow us on Twitter @DerbyCC - use #derbywalk or email parks@derby.gov.uk

We will update our website with nature seen at each park.
Visit www.derby.gov.uk/parks



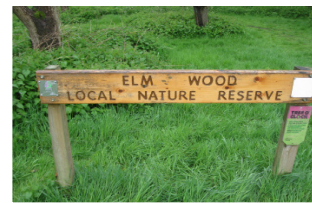
Walk key	• Surface graded B = Quite smooth, with some uneven ground • Slope Gentle = up to a 1 in 20 gradient • Access = not suitable for wheelchair and pushchairs. • Family walk
Estimated time	1km (0.62miles), 30 minutes at a steady pace
Facilities	Toilets available at Moorways Sports Complex. Community cafe available on Osmaston Park.
How to get there	By bus from Derby City Centre, bus number 40 or 41 By road Sat Nav: DE24 9HY - park in Moorways Sports Complex or on Osmaston Park

Walk route



- 1.** The walk starts at Moorways Sports Centre on Moor Lane. The entrance to the Nature Reserve is through the Sports Complex Stadium gates. On entering the gates, turn right onto the grass verge.
- 2.** Keep to the right, you will come to a steep hill, there is a steep decline and the ground may be muddy and slippery when wet.
- 3.** You will see an oak tree with two yellow arrows, turn left and you will see a stand of trees.

This is Elmwood which is classed as Ancient Woodland and is more than 400 years old. Enter at the wooden sign.



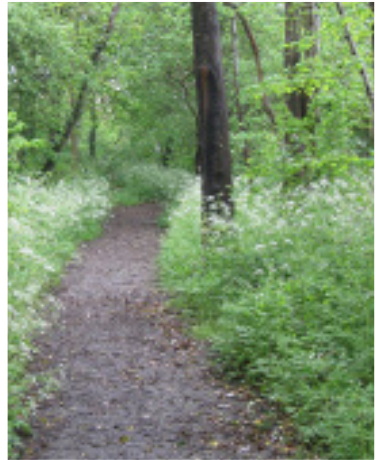
- 4.** There is a circular walk around the wood, the path is marked with yellow paint. At the entrance you will see young elm trees. There is also a grove of white poplar trees with diamond shaped markings on their bark.

- 5.** Ash and Elm are the main canopy trees, the shrub layer is mainly Hawthorn, Elm and Blackthorn



- 6.** You may see buzzards and sparrow hawks as well as speckled wood butterflies. There are nettles in summer providing food for caterpillars. Look down for fungi growing on fallen, dead trees. In winter you may see great tits, blue tits and migrant fieldfares

- 7.** Ground cover is ivy, holly with white field roses and pink dog roses.
- 8.** In the spring you may see elm trees showing their seeds. In the summer you may see white letter hairstreak butterflies in the canopy of the elm.





- 9.** Native bluebells have been planted, look out for them in the spring. You may see a greater spotted woodpecker or hear the 'yaffle' of a green woodpecker.
- 10.** As well as the circular walk around the wood there are narrow paths that crisscross the wood. Be careful of fallen branches.
- 11.** Elm Wood is managed with dead hedges, log piles, bird and bat boxes, which is good for seeing small animals, insects and birds. Great for a bug hunt!

This circular walk finishes back at the Elm Wood sign.

Don't forget to tell us about the wildlife you have seen on your walk, by following us on Twitter @DerbyCC - use #derbywalk or email: parks@derby.gov.uk

Produced in Partnership with Derbyshire Mind - Enjoying Derby and Derby City Council

For information about Derby's Local Nature Reserves please call Derby Parks on 01332 293111, Minicom 01332 640666, email parks@derby.gov.uk or visit www.derby.gov.uk/parks