

WILDFLOWER *Meadows*



Wildflower meadows are a natural and evolving landscape feature that can take time to establish properly. In the UK, most meadows take up to 5 years to fully develop, with the first year often appearing sparse or untidy as grasses and flowers establish their root systems.



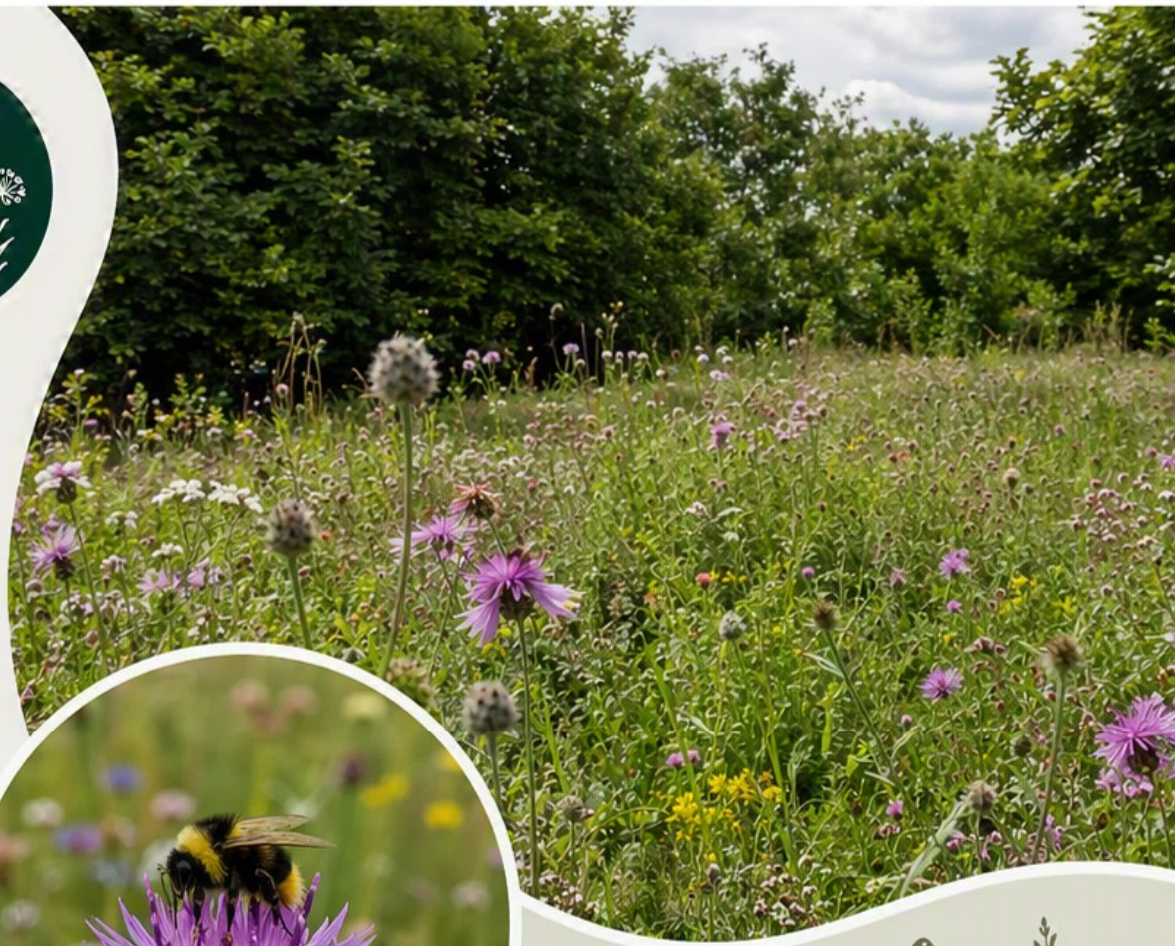
During this period, it is normal to see patches of bare ground, varying flower coverage, large and small weeds as well as seasonal colour changes rather than a constant display of blooms. Meadows are intentionally managed differently from traditional lawns and may look longer, wilder, and less uniform, particularly during the growing season.



Maintenance is still carried out, including annual or seasonal cutting, removal of arisings, and weed control where necessary, all of which help improve biodiversity and strengthen the meadow over time.



As the meadow matures, customers can expect a more balanced mix of native flowers, grasses, pollinators, and wildlife, creating an attractive and environmentally beneficial space that changes naturally throughout the seasons.



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Great Crested Newts



Wichelstowe has an active population of great crested newts that we are keen to preserve.



Meadows provide valuable habitat for great crested newts by creating a rich and diverse environment that supports a wide range of insects, worms, and other invertebrates that form part of their food supply.



The dense vegetation also offers shelter, protection from predators, and suitable areas for foraging and dispersal between breeding ponds and surrounding terrestrial habitats. Adult newts only spend spring and early summer in ponds and the rest of the year they live on land.



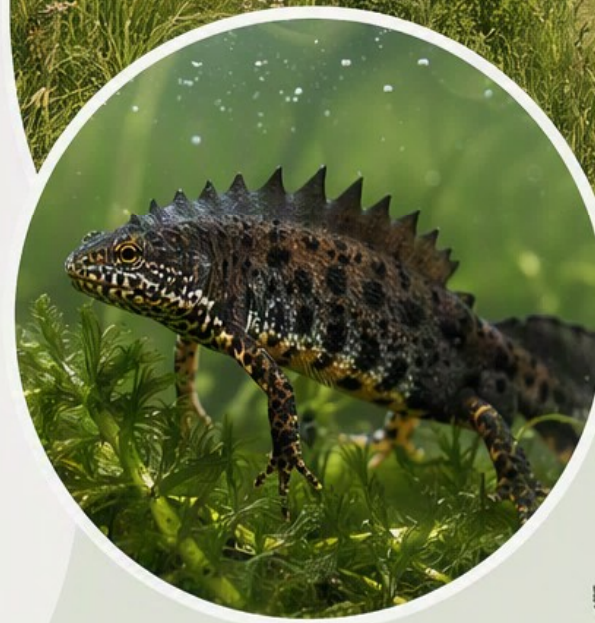
By establishing and managing meadows, we can help support great crested newt populations while also enhancing biodiversity and improving pollinator resources.



The meadow areas will be managed on a rotational cut with different areas cut annually leaving some of the meadow intact. They will also be framed with a metre wide strip and natural pathways reintroduced to enjoy the meadows from a different perspective.



Please note meadows are different from wildflower meadows and both are maintained differently to provide different outcomes.



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