



# Dalbeath Marsh

## Spring / Summer Update



Lots of wildflowers are now in full bloom. Look out for red Campion which is all over the Nature reserve.

Most of the trees are now in leaf – providing lots of food for our minibeast population; which in turn provides food for other birds and animals

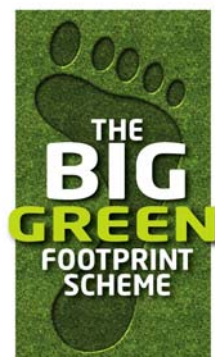


Lots of the birds now have young. One of the mallards on the pond is the proud mother of 5 ducklings

Look out for the moorhen chicks too. If you see them out of the water, you'll see their proportionately huge feet!



The Trust is a registered environmental charity which manages, conserves and enhances the biodiversity and countryside of Fife. Registered Address: The Harbourmaster's House, Dysart, KY1 2TQ. Tel: 01592 656080  
Scottish Charity No: SC031247 . [www.fifecoastandcountryside.co.uk](http://www.fifecoastandcountryside.co.uk)



SUPPORTING FIFE'S COUNTRYSIDE

# Pond Dipping

Hill of Beath Primary School were out pond dipping at the end of May. The pond was absolutely teeming with life. Here's what we found:

- Mayfly Nymphs
- Caddisfly larva
- Midge larva
- Great diving beetle larva
- Water louse
- Freshwater shrimp
- Water mites
- Cyclops
- Water fleas
- Leeches
- Pond snails



# Plans for the rest of the Summer

## Water level control

We are currently investigating installing a water level control sluice. This will enable us to raise or lower the level of the water, which will help some of the plant communities at the edge of the water

## Open day

There will be an open day on Wed 21<sup>st</sup> July – lots of activities and information for everyone

## Help for nesting Birds

Between now and next spring I hope to get a variety of different nest boxes and other structures built and installed. These should go some way to help the local bird population I hope to involve the local schools and community with this.

## Litter

Litter is an ongoing problem at the marsh. Picking it up is an ongoing problem and takes a lot of time. Please make sure you take yours home!

## Surveys and meadow mowing

The grass areas get surveyed every year to see what grasses and flowers are growing. They are improving every year, because they now get cut annually. This lowers the nutrient level in the soil which makes it more suitable for wildflowers and meadow grasses.