



## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Chaffinch**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

The males have a rusty orange body with black and white wings and a bluey grey colour on top of their head and neck. The females have a light brown body and a paler black wing than the

General Information

The second most common bird in the UK, and claims to be the most colourful of the finches. When these birds flock they are all males, which is why their latin name means 'bachelor'.

Habitat

One of the most common garden birds in the UK. They build cup-shaped nests in the forks of trees.

Diet

Mainly seeds and fruits, but will also eat insects, spiders and worms.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Yellowhammer**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Red

Key Characteristics

A small yellow bird with light brown wings and orange tints to their backs

General Information

These social birds tend to live in flocks. Their numbers have become low in the UK and now part of a priority action plan to save them.

Habitat

Found in hedgerows, scrub and parklands. They spend most of their lives on the ground under the cover of vegetation.

Diet

A varied diet of seeds, berries, insects and spiders.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Robin**

Animal Type

**Bird**

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A small bird with a greyish brown back and wings, and a red breast, its most distinguishing feature.

General Information

The national bird of the UK since 1960, the Robin is mostly considered around Christmas time. However, these birds very rarely leave a distance far from where they are hatched.

Habitat

Mainly in woodlands, parks and gardens.

Diet

Normally ground feeds, eating insects and seeds. They are comon visitors to garden bird tables and will eat most things on offer there.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Pied Wagtail**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A small bird with grey back and white underside

General Information

These are very energetic birds, constantly on the move and their tail wagging all the time. Although not generally territorial, the males in the winter can become protective of feeding grounds when food stock is low.

Habitat

Tend not to be seen in urban areas, but across farmlands, open grassland and large gardens.

Diet

Primarily insects, but will eat seeds in the winter.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Jackdaw**

Animal Type

**Bird**

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

All black with, what looks like, a velvety back

General Information

Very intelligent birds who are able to problem solve, as well as be trained to carry out particular tasks. They will even learn to distinguish between individual people.

Habitat

Can be found almost anywhere, including fields, park,s woodlands and gardens.

Diet

Mainly seeds and insects, but will also pick at animal carcass

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Rook**

Animal Type

**Bird**

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A large black bird, but can be distinguished from the comon crow by it's white/grey face.

General Information

They are very social birds, tending to move in groups and roost together, you wil potentially find 30-40 together in one flock.

Habitat

Generally open argricultural land where there are high trees for breeding. They tend not to be in forests or marshland areas.

Diet

Rooks will eat a wide variety of foods, from seeds to household scraps, insects and worms.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Oystercatcher**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A larger black and white bird. Their distinguishing feature is their long orange beak

General Information

Contrary to their name, they rarely eat oysters. These birds are being found more and more coming further inland, living around wetlands and lochs.

Habitat

Found mainly along the coast, but they will fly inland to wetlands and smaller bodies of water.

Diet

Mainly the likes of muscles, whelks and limpets, but can also eat worms and insects.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Swallow**

Animal Type

**Bird**

Conservation Status

**Amber**

Key Characteristics

A dark shiny blue head, back and wings, with white underside and red throat

General Information

Associated a lot with love, loyalty and peace, these birds, they can normally be seen looping in the air, particularly in the spring when they return from their migration to the south.

Habitat

They will build their nests out of mud and straw on ledges and under the eaves of buildings. They can be found most across farmland and near water

Diet

Insects mostly, particularly those which fly, which they will catch mid-flight

Male:



Female:







## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Sand Martin**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A small bird with white underside and brown back and wings.

General Information

The small summer visitors are very agile fliers, normally seen doing what appears to be acrobatics close to the surface of water.

Habitat

These small birds nest as groups in steep sandy hillsides, normally near water.

Diet

Mostly small insects, in particular those which can be found near water.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Sparrowhawk**

Animal Type

**Bird**

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A small bird of prey with a grey/blue back and white or orange underside, with brown lines across. Females are larger.

General Information

At one point these birds were extremely rare and considered endangered, however, their numbers have since increased and there are now approx. 35,000 pairs in Britain.

Habitat

Normally found in and around woodland areas.

Diet

They will survive almost entirely on birds, with the occasional bat.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Skylark**

Animal Type

**Bird**

Conservation Status

**Red**

Key Characteristics

A small brown bird with grey flecks and grey underside. Its distinguishing feature is what looks like a quiff on its head, normally dark brown.

General Information

The skylark is known for its song, normally fast, varied and complex, normally the first to start singing in the evening are the females.

Habitat

Can be found across farmland and grassland, with their nests at ground level normally amongst long grass.

Diet

Normally leaves and seeds of crops, as well as weeds.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Goldfinch**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

Most identifiable by their black and white head and red face, they also have a light brown back and breast, white underside and black and yellow wings. The females have a slightly smaller

General Information

These are traditionally birds which would migrate south, however, recently due to a more stable food supply, they are remaining more in the colder north for the winter period.

Habitat

Found mainly in open and lightly wooded areas. They will also travel short distances for better weather.

Diet

Primarily small seeds, but when feeding young will eat small insects. These are common birds found at garden bird feeders

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Willow Warbler**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Amber

Key Characteristics

A small plump bird with a grey-brown back and greeny yellow underside

General Information

These little birds have one unusual factor, they moult all their feathers twice a year, once when breeding and once when they reach their winter grounds.

Habitat

Can be found in woodlands, parklands and gardens, normally in tree canopies.

Diet

Mainly insects and spiders, but will eat seeds and berries from autumn through until spring.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Tree Sparrow**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Red

Key Characteristics

A small bird with grey underside and brown back with darker feathers through it. It has white cheeks with a black patch and black throat

General Information

These birds have declined severely since 1970, approx. 93%, although current breeding programmes and protections seem to be starting to make a difference.

Habitat

Can be seen across farmland and woodland, but will very rarely be seen in urban areas, they tend not to be keen on human

Diet

They survive on seeds and insects, and the occasional berry.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**House Sparrows**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Red

Key Characteristics

A small bird with a grey underside and brown back and wings. The males are normally darker and also have black through the back

General Information

These birds can be found in most places across the world, but are in decline in the UK, between 1977 and 2008 their numbers dropped by 71%

Habitat

Normally open grassy land, although normally near urban areas

Diet

Primarily grains and seeds, but will also eat waste food in urban areas

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Mallard**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A common duck with green head, brown back and grey wings and underside, with brown breast. The females are all brown with flecks of grey.

General Information

Although these birds do not mate for life, they will spend each season with one partner, normally from around October until May, but the next year they will choose a different partner.

Habitat

mainly freshwater areas, such as lakes, reservoirs, rivers, ponds, and wetlands.

Diet

Mainly plants, including seeds and grasses, but will on occasion eat insects when young.

Male:



Female:







## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Buzzard**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A fairly large bird which can vary from a dark brown colour to lighter shade, with a white underside. They have a short neck and tail and when soaring in the sky they will normally have their

General Information

Although almost extinct in the UK at one point, they are now the most common bird of prey in the UK. The wing span can reach up to 1.5m

Habitat

Buzzards can be found in a wide range of places, including towns and cities. It is easiest to see them in open spaces such as farmland and open parks.

Diet

Typically they eat small rodents, birds and mammals, but can also eat amphibians and insects.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Moorhen**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A black bird with yellow and red beak

General Information

Sometimes referred to as marsh hens, these birds only live for an average of 3 years, and use their tails to alert about predators, flicking their tails up.

Habitat

Found on almost every body of water

Diet

mainly seeds, leaves and roots, it will dive into water to get these. It will also eat algae, small fish and tadpoles.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Lesser Black-Backed Gull**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Amber

Key Characteristics

Smaller than a herring gull, they have dark grey/black backs and wings and white undersides and head.

General Information

The entire population of these birds live in Europe, but will visit occasionally for short periods of time to North America.

Habitat

Seen on farmlands, wetlands and coastal areas.

Diet

Originally fish and insects, but are scavengers who will eat almost anything. They have become a great pest in many areas emptying bins.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Woodpigeon**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A common grey bird with lighter underside, pink tinge to their chest and white marks on its neck

General Information

Often seen as a pest, these birds are often seen parading around in pairs. The ever increasing numbers is mainly put down to the increase in cereal crops that have been grown since the mid-1970's.

Habitat

Can be found almost anywhere, including parks, woodland, grassland, and farmland.

Diet

Mainly vegetables, but also seeds, fruits, buds and berries.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Long-Eared Owl**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Least Concern

Key Characteristics

A medium-sized owl with a grey underside and brown back and wings. Its most obvious feature are its head feather which make it appear to have ears sticking up

General Information

These birds are not as commonly seen due to their noturnal nature, but on a calm night they can be seen. They can survive in altitudes up to 2000m above sea level, which is higher than any point in the UK.

Habitat

Living in forests and shrub lands near to open spaces.

Diet

These owls survive on small mammals, such mice, voles, and rats

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Goldcrest**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

Goldcrests are the UK's smallest bird, it is a greeny-yellow colour with white underbelly, and a striking yellow stripe on its head.

General Information

Although the smallest, this bird is known as the 'king of birds', mainly due to its scientific name which translates to 'king' or 'knight'.

Habitat

During breeding season they will stay in thick coniferous woodland, however outwith this they tend to be seen in open areas.

Diet

Mainly small insects and spiders, but will eat seeds in the winter.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Blue Tit**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

Although a very small bird, it has a lot of colour. It has blue wings, a green back, yellow underbelly and a white face.

General Information

Although one of the most common birds across the UK, they are strangely missing from Orkney and Shetland. Due to the increasing number of nesting boxes and garden feeders, blue tits numbers have increased in the UK over recent years.

Habitat

Blue tits are mainly found in broad-leaved woodlands, but also a regular visitor to gardens.

Diet

During the summer their main diet is insects, in the winter they will live on seeds.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Great Tit**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

The largest of the tit species, they have a black head with white cheeks, a green back and yellow underside with a black stripe down the middle. Their wings are a grey/blue colour.

General Information

The female great tit can lay up to 11 eggs and she will incubate them entirely on her own. However, the male will help to feed the chicks for up to about 20 days before they leave the nest.

Habitat

Mainly found in open woodlands and gardens. They can be found in dense coniferous woods, however, it tends to be in clearings.

Diet

During the spring and summer they will feed on insects, but in autumn and winter their diet changes to berries and seeds. They will also eat scraps from bird tables.

Male:



Female:







## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Coal Tit**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A small bird with a grey back and brown breast. Its more distinguishing features are its black head and throat and white cheeks

General Information

The coal tit is the smallest of the UK tits, only weighing about the same as a 50p coin. These birds will go to great lengths to get small insects from deep in the wood of trees.

Habitat

These birds can be found in coniferous woodlands, or parks where conifer trees are. Although they nest in holes in trees, they are perfectly happy also in nesting boxes.

Diet

Insects and conifer seeds are their main diet, but in gardens they will eat sunflower seeds.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Black Cap**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A distinctive black top on its head giving the illusion of wearing a black cap, as the name suggests. On females these will be more of a light brown colour. The remainder of the body is grey in colour.

General Information

This warbler has a very flute-like song, which is why it is often referred to as the 'northern nightingale'. Although a migratory species, birds from Germany can be found in Scotland during the winter.

Habitat

Black caps are normally found more in deciduous woodland, but are making more appearances in gardens. Predominantly a migratory bird, it can be found from Spring to Autumn.

Diet

During the breeding season, small insects are the main diet, however during the rest of the year they will diet on small fruits

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Garden Warbler**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A small bird with light grey/brown colour on the back and wings and grey underbelly.

General Information

Habitat

Tend to be in thick bushes and trees

Diet

During breeding season they will eat insects, but outwith this they tend to eat berries and fruit.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Whitethroat**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A small bird with light brown back and wings, grey underside and head, and white throat.

General Information

These curious singers are quite investigative, often going to check on disturbances and intruders. Although their numbers have increased significantly, they still haven't grown back to the level that they once were.

Habitat

Most commonly found in hedgerows, grasslands and scrub.

Diet

During spring and summer they survive on insects, in the autumn they feed on seeds and fruit to prepare for migration.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Wren**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A small plump bird with a light brown back and paler underside. They often appear to have zigzag lines across their back and wings.

General Information

Although not the smallest bird in the UK, they are the shortest. They have loud and complex songs, and will often sing in duet with each other.

Habitat

They can be found a range of areas, including gardens, farmland, parkland, woodland and moorland. The geenrally prefer decidious trees.

Diet

They survive on insects, particularly beetles, grasshoppers, crickets, and flies.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Starling**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Red

Key Characteristics

These birds will appear different at different times of the year. During breeding season they will be darker and have purple, green and blue colours. Outwith breeding season, they will have

General Information

Numbers are declining for these birds, although there are still estimated to be around 800,000 pairs in the UK. When you see these, there can appear to be more, as they tend to flock with other birds.

Habitat

These birds can be found almost anywhere there is open land.

Diet

Mainly insects, berries and seeds, but will also eat spiders, slugs and worms.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Blackbird**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

The male is, as the name suggests all black, however, the females are brown with spots. Their bright orange beaks stand out well against their black bodies.

General Information

The blackbird is one of the most common birds in the UK, with their song regularly heard in gardens.

Habitat

The birds can be found anywhere there are gardens, hedges, or woodland.

Diet

Primarily fruit, insects, seeds and small molluscs

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Song Thrush**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Red

Key Characteristics

This bird has a brown back and cream underside, with black dots

General Information

100 years ago these birds were considered the most common in the UK, now there are about 1.1 million pairs in the UK. They will sing all year round, but really become apparent around New Year.

Habitat

Mainly gardens, woodlands and hedges

Diet

They will eat a range of foods, including insects, worms, slugs, and soft fruits.

Male:



Female:







## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Wheatear**

Animal Type

**Bird**

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

These small birds have a very white underside, black wings and cheeks, and grey back.

General Information

During their migration, these birds make the longest journey of any small bird, travelling across oceans, ice and deserts.

Habitat

Can be seen most in open spaces, including grasslands, heathland and moorland.

Diet

Mainly insects, spiders and snails, but wil also eat berries when food is scarce.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Dunnock**

Animal Type

**Bird**

Conservation Status

**Amber**

Key Characteristics

A small bird with a brown back and wings and grey underside.

General Information

Dunnocks are often overlooked, and confused for sparrows, even their nickname is 'hedge sparrow'. Although their numbers are high in the UK, they are gradually decreasing.

Habitat

Normally found in and under bushes. A common garden bird and along the hedgerows of fields

Diet

Mainly small insects and seeds

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Linnet**

Animal Type

**Bird**

Conservation Status

**Red**

Key Characteristics

A small bird with red breast, wings and forehead. The females are more brown.

General Information

These birds used to be kept a lot as caged pets in homes for their melodic sounds, but in recent years this has declined.

Habitat

Mainly farmland where hedgerows or scrub is for nests

Diet

They only eat seeds, but a lot of them. The young prefer oil-seed rape

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Red Squirrel**

Animal Type

**Mammal**

Conservation Status

**Near Threatened**

Key Characteristics

A small squirrel, with a red/brownish coloured coat and white underside. Their tails tend not to be as bushy as other squirrels.

General Information

Numbers are decline due to a disease carried by the Grey Squirrel, which does not harm them, but kills the red. Many measures are in place in attempt to contain the spread of grey squirrels and reintroduce red.

Habitat

In pockets of the UK, these squirrels live in areas of woodland

Diet

A variety of foods, including nuts, insects, seeds, fruit, mushrooms and bark.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Pipistrelle Bat**

Animal Type

**Mammal**

Conservation Status

**Least Concern**

Key Characteristics

A very small bat with brown body and grey/black wings

General Information

These bats tend to be seen whilst in flight, moving very fast in the air and not flying in a straight line. They can appear to be fast moving dots, so small that they can fit inside a match box

Habitat

These can be found in a variety of different places, from open farmland to dense cities. They prefer to be somewhere warm, so tend not to be up on moorlands.

Diet

Insects mainly, which it can catch mid flight, it is a big fan of midges.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Rabbit**

Animal Type

**Mammal**

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A small furry mammal with two large hind legs, a short fluffy tail and long ears

General Information

Rabbits are commonly seen in most places, if you see them jumping in the air and spinning, this is a sign they are happy. However, you can also literally scare a rabbit to death, as they can take a heart attack as a result of loud bangs or music.

Habitat

Living in burrows almost anywhere, including farmlands, wetlands, forests and urban spaces.

Diet

Mainly grass and leaves, but will eat other plant based foods, such as vegetables.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Mole**

Animal Type

**Mammal**

Conservation Status

**Least Concern**

Key Characteristics

Small black mammals with long snout and shovel-like front paws

General Information

Easily known if they are around by the mound of soil scattered around the surface. They are efficient in being able to tunnel up to 18 feet per hour.

Habitat

Tunnels they burrow underground, normally in dry soil around meadows and woodlands.

Diet

Worms, grubs and insects. They will eat about 80% of their own weight each day.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Butterfly**

Animal Type

Invertebrate

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

Butterflies tend to be seen during the day and while at rest will normally have their wings closed, compared to a moth who rests with their wings open. They tend to be more colourful. but not

General Information

Butterflies are a great indicator of a healthy environment. In the UK there are approximately 59 different species, however some are in decline.

Habitat

Although butterflies can be seen almost anywhere, they tend to be around the edge of woodlands and areas of wildflower

Diet

They tend to eat nectar, rotten fruit and pollen, but will eat almost anything that can be dissolved in water

Male:



Female:







## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Dragonfly**

Animal Type

Insect

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A long thin colourful body with fragile transparent wings. The females tend to have less colourful bodies.

General Information

Dragonflies were one of the first insects to inhabit the planet, approximately 300 million years ago. With 4 wings that can move individually they are quite the acrobat, able to manoeuvre like no other, they can move forwards, backwards, sideways and hover, and change directions at any time.

Habitat

Tend to be found near to fresh water, including small streams and ponds. The young live in the fresh water.

Diet

Dragonflies are not fussy eaters, they eat insects on almost any type, including other dragonflies.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Fox**

Animal Type

**Mammal**

Conservation Status

**Near Threatened**

Key Characteristics

A reddish brown fur with white underbelly and black fronts to their legs. They have pointed ears and bushy tail.

General Information

Foxes tend to live in small families until the young are old enough to venture the world on their own. In rural areas the fox are in decline, however numbers in urban areas continue to be steady.

Habitat

Foxes can be found anywhere, in urban streets and in rural landscapes.

Diet

In rural areas, they mainly eat fruit and berries, along with small mammals. In urban areas they will scavenge meat, bread, and bird food.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Brown Hare**

Animal Type

**Mammal**

Conservation Status

**Least Concern**

Key Characteristics

Larger than the typical rabbit, they have long ears with black tips and a reddish brown fur and a black topped tail

General Information

The brown hare is one of the largest hare species and can reach speeds of up to 45 miles per hour to evade predators. Unlike rabbits, they live their entire lives above ground, sheltering in hollows in the ground.

Habitat

The brown hare lives in open space, preferring grass and arable farmland.

Diet

Mainly grasses and herbs, but also like buds, bark and small twigs from small trees.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Hedgehog**

Animal Type

**Mammal**

Conservation Status

**Vulnerable**

Key Characteristics

Easily recognisable by its spiny back, cone shaped face and short legs

General Information

Nocturnal animals with very poor sight, they rely on hearing and smell. Their only defence is their 5000-7000 spines, controlled by muscles along their back.

Habitat

Nests are normally in hedgerows and woodlands, but in evenings and night they can also be found in open spaces and commonly in urban gardens

Diet

They will eat most insects, but prefer worms, beetles, slugs, caterpillars and millipedes

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Stoat**

Animal Type

**Mammal**

Conservation Status

**Least Concern**

Key Characteristics

A long mammal with short legs, brown fur on its back, white underside and black tip on its tail.

General Information

Although seen mostly along hedges and woodland edges, they are quite capable of being almost anywhere, they can climb, run and even swim.

Habitat

Generally they will live anywhere they can find food, but in particular, woodland and grassland. They will often set up their own dens inside the burrows of other animals, such as rabbits.

Diet

Mainly small mammals, such as mice, voles and rabbits. But they will also eat eggs, fruit and worms when food is scarce.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Weasel**

Animal Type

**Mammal**

Conservation Status

**Least Concern**

Key Characteristics

A long body with short legs, they have a red/brown fur on their back and sides, and white underside. They have a short tail, which is normally the same colour as their body (unlike the stoat

General Information

Weasels will often tackle prey larger than themselves and will tackle them into a hold which allows them to suffocate their meal. Although their sharp claws and teeth can do damage to people, they are more likely to run away and leave an unpleasant odour.

Habitat

They can be found anywhere that has enough prey for them to survive, commonly in grasslands, woodlands, and farmlands.

Diet

They will live on mainly small mammals up to the size of rabbits, along with the occasional bird.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Vole**

Animal Type

**Mammal**

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A small rodent which looks similar to a mouse, it is a browny grey colour on its back and pale on its underside.

General Information

A mainly nocturnal animal for most of the year, but in winter will forage for food during the day. These little rodents generally only live for a year, but much of that is due to predators.

Habitat

Can be found in grassy areas, meadows and wetlands

Diet

They survive completely on grass and green leaves

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Mouse**

Animal Type

**Mammal**

Conservation Status

**Least Concern**

Key Characteristics

A small rodent with brown or grey fur and rounded ears.

General Information

Nocturnal mostly, and can eat about 18 times a day. Their long tails can grow to be longer than their bodies, and in the wild they will only live for an average of 6 months due to predators

Habitat

Mainly forests and grasslands, but also live in manmade structures.

Diet

These scavengers will eat almost anything, including seeds and fruit, as well as scrap of meat

Male:



Female:







## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Shrew**

Animal Type

**Mammal**

Conservation Status

**Least Concern**

Key Characteristics

This small mammal has a dark brown back, lighter sides and white underside. It has a long snout and tiny ears, and a short furry tail.

General Information

Although not recognised often, there are estimated to be more than 40 million shrews in the UK. They can also walk on water, with feet that shape to create an air bubble along with the speed with which they move, they can move across water without sinking.

Habitat

They prefer to be in places which are covered, and will spend most of their time underground or in tree cavities.

Diet

Mainly small insects, worms, slugs and snails, but will also eat amphibians, small rodents, and other shrews.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Crane fly (Daddy Long Legs)**

Animal Type

Invertibrate

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

These look like legs with wings at first glance. They have a long slender body and 6 long fragile legs. On the body the male has a square end. the females have a pointed end.

General Information

There are 14,000 species of crane fly, making them the largest family of flying species, however, they are also the worst flyers of all flying species. The larvae are classed as pests as they can do a lot of damage to plant life and farm crops.

Habitat

Tend to live in grassy areas and gardens. Nocturnal attracted to lights, which is why they can often be seen in your house in the evening. The larvae can be found in wet environments, around ponds and wetlands.

Diet

Adults rarely eat at all, but larvae eat grasses and plant stems.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Hawthorn Fly**

Animal Type

**Invertibrate**

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A long shiny black fly, normally seen in large numbers

General Information

Also known as the St Mark's Fly, this is due to the adults emerging around St Marks Day (25th April).

Habitat

Usually found along woodland edges, fields and in wetland aras

Diet

these flies survive on grass roots ad decaying leaves

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Bumble Bee**

Animal Type

Invertebrate

Conservation Status

Endangered

Key Characteristics

A black and yellow striped body, larger than a wasp. The bumblebee is larger than the honey bee and tends to look furry. The queen is rarely seen, but is slightly larger and has a darker

General Information

Bees are social and live in colonies with different bees having different roles. A nationwide campaign is currently ongoing to plant more flowering plants to help increase the population, which is affected by a disease known as wing-deformity virus

Habitat

In the wild, bees live in hollows, often in trees or holes in the ground. However, becoming more common is the keeping of hives in gardens and nesting in disused bird boxes.

Diet

Those kept in hive at times will survive on sugar syrup, in the wild they live on pollen and nectar from flowering plants.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Garden Snail**

Animal Type

**Invertebrate**

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

**Brown body with a brown shell**

General Information

A regular pest in the garden eating the lovely flowers that you have spent so long caring for. Snails are quite good at monitoring their own conditions, and can seal themselves inside their own shell to protect from the weather. They are hermaphrodite, so can reproduce on their own, laying up to 80 eggs at a time.

Habitat

During the day snails will hide under rocks and plants, out of the sun. In the evening they can be found in damp areas, particularly in soils and around vegetation.

Diet

Leaves, fruit, bark, grass

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Woodlouse**

Animal Type

Invertebrate

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A small brownish grey bug with oval body and two long antennae.

General Information

Although small, they have 14 parts to their boddy, which allows them to roll up into a ball when predators are nearby.

Habitat

They like dark damp places, normally under rocks, in walls and through compost heaps.

Diet

These critters feed on dead leaves, rotten wood and rotten fruit.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Soldier Beetle**

Animal Type

Invertibrate

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

These beetles have straight-sided bodies which can vary in colour, but include yellow, black, red and brown. They also appear to have a red collar and legs

General Information

These beetles are friends to gardeners,, often eating and keeping away other pests. Many gardeners celebrate when they find them.

Habitat

Normally sfound around floral plants.

Diet

They will sip at nectar and pollen, as well as attacking and eating other insects. The young will also feed on larvae of other insects.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Hoverfly**

Animal Type

**Invertibrate**

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A small fly primarily yellow and black with red markings on their head. Very similar looking to wasps

General Information

These flies can be seen often hovering around plants, and have a very short lifespan of only 1 month.

Habitat

Normally seen around floral areas, and in the vicinity of water, including small pools

Diet

Adults feed on nectar and pollen, while larvae feed on a wide range of foods

Male:



Female:







## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Ladybird**

Animal Type

**Invertibrate**

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A small red bug with black spots

General Information

Ladybirds are actually beetles. In order to protect themselves from predators they release a foul smell and use their colours as a warning

Habitat

You can find ladybirds almost everywhere, mainly around vegetation

Diet

They will mainly eat other insect larvae, as well as other soft bodied insects

Male:

Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Moth**

Animal Type

Invertibrate

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

There are lots of different variety of moth, which all look different, the best way to distinguish between moths and butterflies is that moths tend to leave their wings open when

General Information

There are over 160,000 different varieties of moth across the globe. Their life span is extremely short, approx. 5 weeks, and their only purpose is to reproduce.

Habitat

Moths can be found in almost every environment, dependant on the variety, with exception of the extreme cold.

Diet

Having a liquid diet, they survive on nectar and sap

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Bullfinch**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Red

Key Characteristics

Males are very distinguishable by their bright red breasts, grey back and black tail and head. The female has a dull orange breast and brown back.

General Information

Small birds which were once common pets are becoming more common in gardens, visiting bird feeders with sunflower seeds. These birds mate for life and were once considered a 'pest' in orchards.

Habitat

They prefer mixed woodland and large gardens, but can be found in coniferous woodland.

Diet

Predominantly seeds, with Elm, Ash and nettles being their favourites, however they will eat small insects when feeding young.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Pink-Footed Goose**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Amber

Key Characteristics

A mainly greyish brown colour over its body, and darker brown neck and head.

General Information

These birds visit in the winter from greenland and Iceland, normally from October - March. During this time about 90% of the world population are in the UK.

Habitat

These birds visit the UK for the winter and can be seen on wetland and farmland areas

Diet

These birds feed mainly on the remains of farm crops, normally after harvest.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Greylag Goose**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Amber

Key Characteristics

A larger bird, all grey. The underside and head are lighter, and their colour getting darker down its back to its tail.

General Information

Geese are often seen as aggressive, however will only be this way if nests and eggs are nearby. If fed by people, they will lose their fear and build nests close to people.

Habitat

Nesting in moors and marshes, they are normally found around bodies of water, including larger ponds and flooded fields

Diet

Mainly feeding on grass, they will often be found eating farm crops.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Kestrel**

Animal Type

**Bird**

Conservation Status

**Amber**

Key Characteristics

A light brown back with black spots and light grey underside with brown streaks. The female is considerably larger and has more spots on their back than the males.

General Information

Kestrels can hunt from both flying and perched positions, however they prefer perched hunting as this uses a lot less energy.

Habitat

These birds can be found in many places, including farmlands, urban areas and heathlands. You are however, unlikely to see them in dense woodlands and wetlands

Diet

Mostly small rodents and birds, but will also eat insects.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Lapwing**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Amber

Key Characteristics

A white underside and face, apart from a black breast and stripe up the face and over the head. It also has a very distinctive long crest (females are shorter). The wings and back have a range of

General Information

Their name comes from the noise their wings make. As they move their wings in a slow and lazy manner it creates a lap sound.

Habitat

Found more in open spaces, normally near bodies of water or wetlands.

Diet

Normally worms, beetles and spiders. Chicks will also feed on larvae.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Curlew**

Animal Type

**Bird**

Conservation Status

**Amber**

Key Characteristics

A brown and white bird with long legs. Its more distinguishing feature is its long curved bill.

General Information

Although in the breeding season Curlews are very territorial, outwith this they are very sociable and will work together to fight off predators. Their tongues are shorter than their beak, which means that they can't use it to help catch prey like other birds, instead it uses its beak like tweezers to throw the prey in the air

Habitat

These are found mainly in areas of wetland and around freshwater, but often also found on grassland

Diet

Mainly worms, beetles, spiders and caterpillars.

Male:



Female:







## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Herring Gull**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Amber

Key Characteristics

A larger gull with a white underside and grey wings

General Information

These large noisy birds traditionally mate for life, however, they will get 'divorced' if they cannot produce healthy young.

Habitat

Found mainly along coast lines, but also inland near bodies of water, such as lochs.

Diet

Although their diet mainly consists of small fish, they will eat other birds eggs, and scavenge for food from bins

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Cuckoo**

Animal Type

**Bird**

Conservation Status

**Amber**

Key Characteristics

These are bluey grey birds with a white and black striped underbelly. On the males the breast is grey like their back, the females have a faded brown breast

General Information

There are a number of different species of Cuckoo, but only the common cuckoo is able to make the traditional cuckoo sound. They aren't the best of parents, instead of making a nest and stayign with eggs, the female will put their eggs in another birds nest and allow them to hatch and raise the chicks.

Habitat

Cuckoos can be found anywhere there are trees in the vicinity, including parks, meadows and moorlands.

Diet

Mainly insects, with hairy caterpillars among their favourites (unlike most birds). Although they will also eat eggs and other young chicks.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Green Woodpecker**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Amber

Key Characteristics

The largest of the UK woodpeckers, they have a white underside, green wings and red stripe on their head with black face.

General Information

Most people have the misconception that woodpeckers spend their time in trees, however, these actually spend most of their time on the ground, as they hunt for ants. The noise they make is like a high-pitch laugh

Habitat

Found mainly in open areas with small pieces of woodland, and along the edges of larger woodlands.

Diet

The largest part of their diet is ants, however in the winter when not as readily available, they will eat other invertebrates and seeds

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Barn Owl**

Animal Type

**Bird**

Conservation Status

**Amber**

Key Characteristics

A distinctive heart-shaped face, light brown back and white underside

General Information

Barn Owls have incredible hearing and sight, particularly in low light. A common way to tell if Barn Owls are present are through 'owl pellets', regurgitated feathers and bones from their prey

Habitat

Barn Owls can be found in a wide range of place, not only barns. They also nest in tree hollows, cliff crevices and other man-made structures such as church steeples

Diet

Mostly small mammals, such as rats, mice, voles, shrews and rabbits. They mostly eat animals that can be found at night.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**House Martin**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Amber

Key Characteristics

A small bird with pure white underparts and a shiny blue and black back and wings

General Information

These birds migrate to Africa for the winter, but will return to the same nest the next year to save time building nests.

Habitat

Their nests are often seen under the eaves of buildings built of mud, usually in rural areas

Diet

Normally flying insects, which they will catch whilst flying

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Tree Pipit**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Amber

Key Characteristics

A small streaky brown bird, paler on the underside.

General Information

These birds numbers are decreasing across the world, although it is hard to determine numbers due to the vast range of area they travel through the year.

Habitat

Mainly woodlands, but can also be found in open areas where trees are nearby.

Diet

Primarily insects and worms, but will also eat small berries

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Meadow Pipit**

Animal Type

Bird

Conservation Status

Amber

Key Characteristics

A small brown bird, most recognised by its sound more than its appearance.

General Information

These birds create a pipit sound when singing, and in the spring can be found in flocks creating a 'parachute' display flight.

Habitat

Common on moorlands, heathland and rough grassland. In the Autumn they move downhill and can be found across farmlands.

Diet

Primarily insects, but they need to be no larger than approx. 5mm. They will also eat seeds and small berries.

Male:



Female:





## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Midge**

Animal Type

Invertebrate

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

Tiny flies, which appear only as black dots in the air in swarms. Larger swarms can appear to be a dark cloud in the air

General Information

In Scotland there are approx. 35 different species of midge, which are only about 2-3mm in size. Although all species bite, but it is the Highland Midge which is known as Scotland's most ferocious foe.

Habitat

They prefer damp acidic peaty areas, but anywhere there is reeds and aquatic plants they can normally be found.

Diet

Parasitic flies which feed on the blood of other animals, including humans.

Male:



Female:







## Elmwood Golf Wildlife Directory

Name

**Wasp**

Animal Type

Invertibrate

Conservation Status

Key Characteristics

A slender smooth yellow and black striped body with a very narrow middle.

General Information

Everyday worker wasps will only live for approx. 12-18 days, and althouhg seen as a pest, are actually very beneficial to humans, killing many other pests. It is thought that all wasps sting, but actually, it is only the females.

Habitat

Can be found almost anywhere, they nest in dark places, building nests out of wood fibres they chew into pulp

Diet

Fruit and nectar mainly, but will also eat the carcus of other insects

Male:



Female:



