



## More information

*All about hedgehogs*

[www.hedgehogstreet.org/](http://www.hedgehogstreet.org/)

*Wildlife-friendly gardening*

[www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk](http://www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk)

*Report hedgehog sightings  
on interactive map*

[www.environmenttrust.co.uk/hedgehogs](http://www.environmenttrust.co.uk/hedgehogs)

*Wildlife information and report sightings*

[www.gigl.org.uk](http://www.gigl.org.uk)

*Nature's Gym*

[naturesgymrichmond.glendalelocal.co.uk/  
hedgehog-health-service/](http://naturesgymrichmond.glendalelocal.co.uk/hedgehog-health-service/)

*Rescue centres*

[www.hedgehog-rescue.org.uk](http://www.hedgehog-rescue.org.uk)

*Richmond Biodiversity Partnership*

[http://www.swlen.org.uk/our-work/  
biodiversity/](http://www.swlen.org.uk/our-work/biodiversity/)



## Some common threats to hedgehogs



**Fences without gaps or holes** - hedgehogs need to roam over a thousand gardens.



**Manicured gardens** – they need long grass, leaf and wood piles for warmth and food.



**Steep-sided pools** - hedgehogs can swim but must have an escape route.



**Slug pellets and pesticides** - use natural pest control methods.



**Paving and tarmac** - paved areas reduce living and safe roaming space and food sources.

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**Environment Trust**  
inspiring love of local places

## HELPING HEDGEHOGS

*Hedgehogs are a national icon under threat.  
Learn how to help them.*



### DID YOU KNOW?



Hedgehog numbers in the UK went down by thirty percent in a decade.



Hedgehogs eat beetles, worms, slugs and caterpillars. Please do not feed them milk or bread.



Badgers are natural predators of hedgehogs but are not thought to be a cause of decline in numbers of hedgehogs.



Hedgehog fleas are different from cat and dog fleas and cause no harm to pets or humans.

# WAYS TO HELP



## *Make hedgehog trails*

Hedgehogs need to roam for food and nesting. Get together with your neighbours, cut a hole in your fence or dig an underground tunnel between gardens about the width of an adult's hand.



## *Know the hazards*

Check for hedgehogs before lighting bonfires, strimming and mowing the lawn. Keep plant netting, tennis nets, litter and household rubbish above ground level so they do not get entangled. Promptly clear harmful litter such as cans and plastics. Let light into your garden for ten minutes before you put your dog out at night: hedgehogs avoid light and will have time to get clear.



## *Feed appropriately*

In cold or dry weather hedgehogs will benefit from a dish of shallow water and meat-based dog or cat food. Do not give them bread or milk, which they cannot digest.



## *Use natural pest control*

Hedgehogs need prey such as slugs and beetles.



[www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk](http://www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk) is a useful website about natural pest control methods such as nematodes for slugs.

## *Make water safe*

Hedgehogs are good swimmers but need an escape route from pools and ponds. Make a ramp from a plank covered in chicken wire or create shallow areas at the edge so they can scramble out.



## *Make a place to nest*

Log and leaf piles and wilderness areas are good for nesting and hibernation as well as habitats for the hedgehogs' food. Let some fallen leaves and twigs lie and do not over-tidy the garden.



## *Report sightings and problems*

Make a report when you see a hedgehog, whether it is well or in difficulty or killed on a road. You can report and follow sightings on the map on the Environment Trust website [www.environmenttrust.co.uk/hedgehogs](http://www.environmenttrust.co.uk/hedgehogs). The website [www.hedgehog-rescue.org.uk](http://www.hedgehog-rescue.org.uk) has details of rescue centres.



*For hedgehog food, grow a wide variety of plants in your garden. If you have paved areas, grow plants in containers.*