

## RESTORING SHROPSHIRE'S VERGES PROJECT



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### Shropshire's road verges could be haven for wildlife

Shropshire's country lanes with their verges and hedgerows are a delight to walk, cycle and drive through. Managed correctly, they could also provide a vital wildlife corridor and habitat for insects, bees, butterflies and small mammals as well as a space for common – and not so common – wild flowers.

A group of conservation volunteers in Shropshire is leading the campaign for restoring wildlife-rich roadside verges in Shropshire. Restoring Shropshire Verges Project (RSVP) have been working to restore some of the damaged verges across the county. With the help of Shropshire Highways department, Plantlife, the National Trust, Caring for Gods Acre and Shropshire Hills AONB, RSVP volunteers have been 'adopting' verges cross Shropshire, leaving them to grow wild until late summer and sowing and planting wildflowers.

Once the flowers are over in later summer the verges will be cut and the cuttings removed. To raise awareness and help people understand why these verges are being left to grow, volunteers have put up signs that say: 'Don't mow - late cut planned. These verges are being managed for wildlife.' You may spot these eye-catching yellow signs as you're out and about in Shropshire.

Some restored verges:

