



## Marlow Town Council - No Mow May

March 2024

<https://www.marlow-tc.gov.uk/>

This year, Marlow Town Council are taking part in No Mow May and encouraging local organisations and residents to do the same. This initiative is part of a wider commitment by the town council to protect and improve the environment. Below is the article that the town council recently published in their spring magazine.

### No Mow May - For One Month Doing Nothing Does Good

For the month of May all non-essential areas Marlow Town Council is responsible for cutting are left to grow wild to give naturally occurring plants and wildflowers a chance to grow, feed and shelter our vital pollinators (regular cutting will resume the beginning of June).

Tear out your No Mow May sign and pop it in your window or put it on a stake in your garden. That way others can see and understand why your grass is long and what you are doing – because knowledge is contagious.



### Why The Long Grass?

Long grass and wildflowers benefit wildlife, tackle pollution and trap carbon below ground. That's why we are expanding our wild verges to create a 'corridor' for pollinators to follow. This year we asked the schools to join our efforts - look on the map to see if your school is helping pollinators.

The transformation from grass to wild doesn't happen overnight. We must change how we cut the grass to reduce soil fertility which discourages grass and encourages wildflowers.

- 1 Reduce the number of cuts per year (1<sup>st</sup> year from 8 to 3 cuts , 2<sup>nd</sup> year 2 cuts, 3<sup>rd</sup> year+ 1 cut)
- 2 Collect the grass clippings (left clippings fertilise and grow more grass instead of wildflowers)
- 3 Keep the mower blade at 6cm (to keep the low wildflowers from being clipped)

### There's No Such Thing As Weeds In Nature – Only Plants

Sometimes there may be plants in the wrong place. When this happens Marlow Town Council grounds maintenance and our grass cutting contractor no longer use glyphosate, instead we use more nature friendly methods.