



Become a Friend of Nidderdale AONB *and contribute to maintaining this special place of beauty*

The AONB Team works closely with partners and landowners to promote conservation work and draw in support for schemes to enhance the area's natural beauty. This includes initiatives to develop a better understanding of the natural environment among both residents and visitors so that more may contribute. Everyone who lives in or visits the area has a responsibility for caring for it, and joining the Friends of Nidderdale AONB is one way you can help. The 'Friends' is a supporters group that focuses individual action and brings people together to enjoy learning more about the area.

Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is a diverse and dramatic landscape with wild, open moors, secluded, pastoral dales, deeply-cut river valleys, wooded gills, small fields bounded by drystone walls, scattered farmsteads and small gritstone villages. The area's rich cultural heritage is heavily influenced by its monastic legacy and there are internationally important wildlife habitats too. It is a managed landscape shaped by generations of human activity, traditional farming and good stewardship. In short, a landscape well deserved of protection.

Membership benefits of becoming a Friend of Nidderdale AONB:

- ▶ **receive a twice yearly newsletter;**
- ▶ **qualify for special events and talks;**
- ▶ **have free access to selected AONB organised public events throughout the year;**
- ▶ **receive a 'Good Practice Guide';**
- ▶ **receive a free car window sticker;**
- ▶ **meet like-minded individuals at social events.**

There are two ways to become a Friend of Nidderdale AONB:

1 **Make a commitment to help the AONB** - by adopting the principles of the Good Practice Guide and by taking a particular action during the year, such as volunteering a certain amount of time with an AONB group, creating a wildflower meadow, or putting up nest boxes: a list of suggested actions is attached, but you may propose your own if it meets the criteria of benefiting the AONB.

2 **Make a financial donation** - a minimum donation of £10 is recommended (£5 for children). All donations will go to conservation projects in the AONB.

for example:

- ▶ **£10 will pay for 5 native broadleaved trees to be planted;**
- ▶ **£20 will pay for 3 metres of new hedgerow planting;**
- ▶ **£40 will pay for 1.5 metres of drystone wall to be built with new stone.**



Caring for Nidderdale AONB

A Good Practice Guide for residents, visitors, and businesses

The AONB's nationally-important landscape is the result of centuries of traditional land management. We can all help look after it by being more conscious of what we buy and eat, how we move around, keep warm and manage our plot of land be it a garden, a field, a wood, a farm or open moor. Each of us in our daily decisions can make a difference and below are some actions that we can take to show that we care.

Taking pride in the Nidderdale AONB	Telling friends, family, colleagues and visitors about the special qualities of the AONB will help encourage them to support our work and join in with actions.
Getting involved	The AONB needs your support. There are many ways to help care for the environment: by joining one of the AONB's volunteers groups, helping to keep your village litter-free, or helping to maintain your village hall. Being active shows you care.
Avoiding waste	<p>"Reduce, re-use and re-cycle" (the tenet of Local Agenda 21) encapsulates the need to be mindful of how much we throw away. By refusing excess packaging and reducing waste we can lower the demand for landfill sites and incinerators in our region. The responsible disposal of litter and waste will help keep the AONB tidy, stop unsightly fly-tipping, and minimise pollution incidents.</p> <p>High water consumption causes problems in the AONB diminishing reservoir levels and requiring water to be extracted from rivers: this threatens wildlife in river catchment habitats.</p>
Being more energy-efficient	Climate change is one of the biggest threats to AONB habitats. Fossil fuel - coal, oil, petrol and gas - contributes to the 'greenhouse gases' that are causing the Earth's atmosphere to warm up and change the climate. Every energy-saving measure will help reduce the impact.
Managing the land for wildlife	Wildlife habitats exist throughout the AONB, in tiny gardens as well as wide open moors. Sensitive management of fields, hedges, drystone walls, paddocks, woods, moorland, gardens and buildings can help support a wide range of wildlife.
Buying local products & services from local land managers who actively manage the land to benefit the environment	Traditional land management helps preserve the wildlife habitats of moors, meadows, field margins, hedges & woodland. Buying local products supports this management practice and helps conserve the AONB and safeguards local jobs.
Following the Countryside Code	Being considerate and responsible when out and about in the AONB will assist rural livelihoods and protect wildlife.
Driving carefully on country roads	Pedestrians, cyclists, horses & riders, farm animals and wildlife are especially vulnerable on country roads. Careful driving will help keep the roads safe for all users.

For more information please contact:

Barry Slaymaker at the AONB Tel: 01423 712950.

Registration Form

I want to support the work of conserving the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Please register me as a Friend of the AONB and I will strive to adopt the principles of the 'Good Practice Guide' for caring for the AONB, and I propose the following personal action(s) (see list overleaf for suggestions) to demonstrate my commitment for the year ending 30 September:

*Voluntary donation: £

Personal Action(s):

.....

* There is no charge for membership if you can commit to a personal action. If you are unable to make such a pledge, we would ask you to make a minimum donation of £10 (£5 for children). Donations will be used solely for conservation schemes in the AONB. If you would like to make a donation as well as a pledge, it will double the benefit to the AONB.

Please make donations payable to 'Friends of Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty'

Title: Forename: Surname:

Address:

..... Post code:

Phone: email:

We would prefer to email information to Friends as it is quicker and more environmentally-friendly.

If you put your email address above, this will be our normal means of communication.

Signature: Date:

Gift Aid

I'd like Friends of Nidderdale AONB to treat as Gift Aid all donations that I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise.

(If you pay income tax, we can reclaim 28% of the value of your donation from the Government, which will increase the amount we can use for conservation.

Please sign the Gift Aid permission to allow us to do this.)

Signature:

You don't have to give the information below, but if you do it will be used solely to help us gain a better understanding of our members so that we can improve the design of our newsletters and member benefits.

All information is kept securely and none of it will be disclosed to outside organisations.

Age (Please tick one): Under 18: 19-40: 41-65: over 65:

Do you live in Nidderdale AONB? Yes No

Do you work in Nidderdale AONB? Yes No

Are you a landowner? Yes No

Don't delay, return today to:

Friends of Nidderdale AONB, King Street, Pateley Bridge, Harrogate HG3 5LE



Some suggestions for actions that members may pledge in lieu of a donation

You may choose one or more actions - they should be appropriate, meaningful and achievable *but challenging to you*, (alternatively, you can propose own action(s))

ACTION	BENEFIT
Display an AONB car sticker Display a poster of AONB events Volunteer for AONB activities Deliver the AONB Newsletter in your Parish	Support the AONB
Put up and maintain bird feeders Put up nest boxes Put up bat boxes Use organic principles in the garden Plant native species of garden shrubs Build a pond to attract wildlife Plant 50 trees (native species) Create a wildflower meadow Volunteer at a local nature reserve	Encouraging wildlife
Buy local wood products	Encourage sustainable woodland
Buy local products Buy fresh local food from local shops or farms Use local restaurants/tea rooms/pubs Use local post offices & shops	Supporting local businesses
Install a garden water butt to collect rainwater Compost organic waste for the garden Recycle kitchen water to irrigate the garden	Recycling
Walk, cycle or use the bus instead of the car Walk the kids to school instead of using the car	Energy saving
Choose water-efficient domestic appliances Install a water meter	Reduce consumption
Buy non-polluting cleaning products Buy non-toxic paint products	Reduce pollution