

# **Natural Environment Facts and Figures for Essex**

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**Land Use**

Broad Habitat (LCM 2007)	Area (ha)
Arable and horticulture	210,328.04
Broad leaved, mixed and yew woodland	23,719.07
Built up areas and gardens	33,491.74
Coniferous woodland	949.83
Dwarf shrub heath	31.37
Fen marsh and swamp	2.85
Open Freshwater	2,864.04
Improved grassland	66,162.59
Inland rock	670.20
Littoral rock	73.06
Littoral sediment	22,044.52
Acid grassland	0.55
Neutral grassland	1,721.41
Rough low-productivity grassland	5,686.71
Salt water	1,697.66
Supra-littoral sediment	34.48
	<b>369,478.10</b>

Broad Habitat (grasslands merged)	Area (ha)	% cover of ECC admin area A
Arable and horticulture	210,328.04	56.9
Broad leaved, mixed and yew woodland	23,719.07	6.4
Built up areas and gardens	33,491.74	9.1
Coniferous woodland	949.83	0.3
Heathland	31.37	0.0
Fen marsh and swamp	2.85	0.0
Open Freshwater	2,864.04	0.8
Improved grassland	66,162.59	17.9
Inland rock	670.20	0.2
Littoral rock	73.06	0.0
Littoral sediment	22,044.52	6.0
Salt water	1,697.66	0.5
Supra-littoral sediment	34.48	0.0
Grassland with conservation value	7,408.67	2.0
	<b>369,478.10</b>	<b>100</b>

LPA	Area (ha) - ECC admin area A	% Cover (ECC admin area A)
Basildon	1,306.62	11.8
Braintree	2,186.14	3.6
Brentwood	1,362.47	8.9
Castle Point	1,985.44	31.4
Chelmsford	2,538.43	7.4
Colchester	5,535.90	16.0
Epping Forest	3,539.96	10.4
Harlow	347.52	11.4
Maldon	10,695.31	25.1
Rochford	11,565.02	43.9
Tendring	6,105.47	16.7
Uttlesford	2,392.24	3.7

**49,560.51                      13.4**

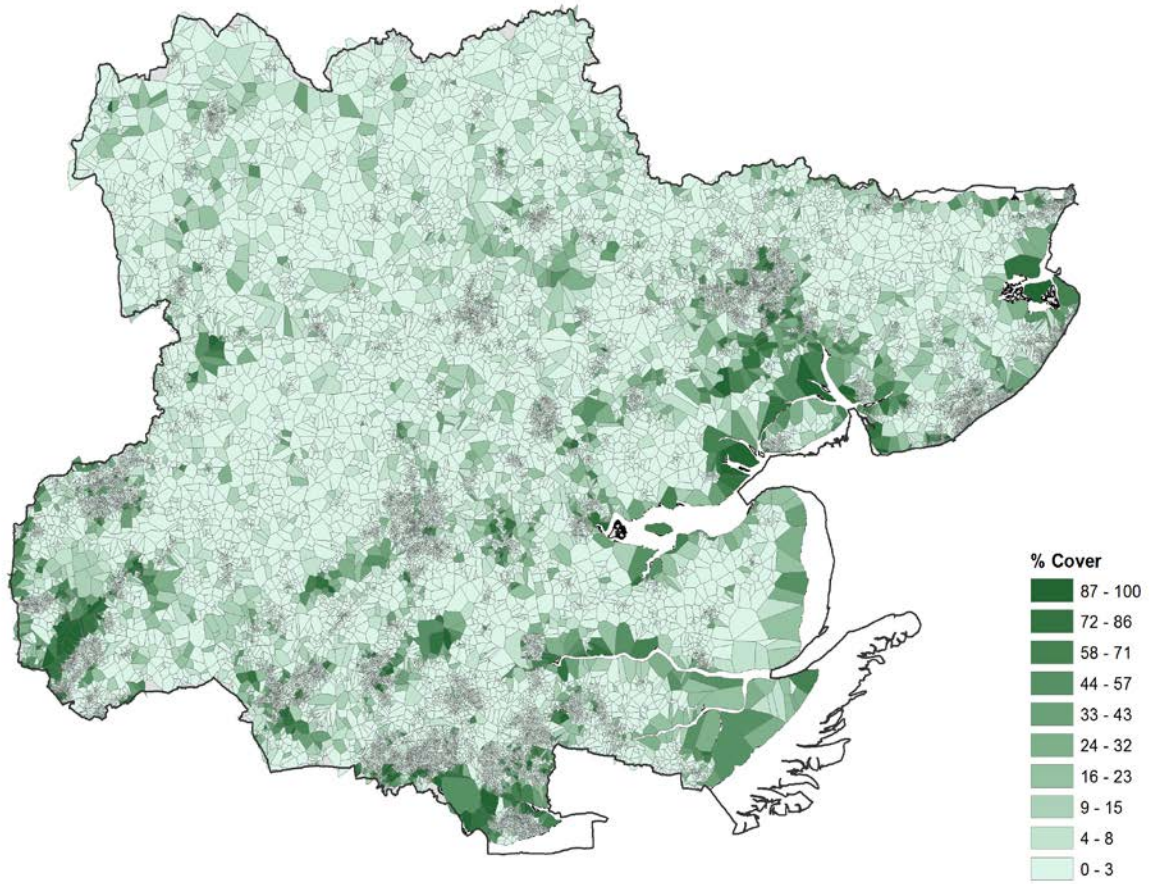
**LPA with highest % cover of protected wildlife sites Rochford**

LPA	Area (ha) - ECC admin area B	% Cover (ECC admin area B)
Basildon	1,267.05	11.5
Braintree	2,186.07	3.6
Brentwood	1,362.46	8.9
Castle Point	1,283.20	28.6
Chelmsford	2,467.09	7.2
Colchester	4,332.65	13.0
Epping Forest	3,540.01	10.4
Harlow	347.40	11.4
Maldon	3,862.84	10.8
Rochford	2,156.35	12.7
Tendring	3,316.51	9.9
Uttlesford	2,392.22	3.7

**28,513.84                      8.2**

**LPA with highest % cover of protected wildlife sites Castle Point**

# Percentage Cover of All Protected Wildlife Sites by Post Code



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## International Sites

Designation	No. ECC admin area (A)	Area (ha)	% cover of ECC admin area (A)
<b>RAMSAR</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>26,571.96</b>	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Special Protection Area (SPA)</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>26,611.35</b>	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Special Area of Conservation (SAC)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>23,198.35</b>	<b>6.3</b>

## Definitions

RAMSAR:

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1390>

SPA:

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-162>

SAC:

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-162>

RAMSAR Name	RAMSAR Area (ha)
Abberton Reservoir	718.31
Benfleet and Southend Marshes	829.46
Blackwater Estuary (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 4)	4,403.17
Colne Estuary (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 2)	2,706.19
Crouch & Roach Estuaries (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 3)	1,745.11
Dengie (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 1)	3,129.20
Foulness (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 5)	9,713.69
Hamford Water	2,188.02
Lee Valley	81.09
Stour and Orwell Estuaries	1,057.71
	<b>26,571.96</b>

SPA Name	SPA Area (ha)
Abberton Reservoir	718.31
Benfleet and Southend Marshes	829.46
Blackwater Estuary (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 4)	4,403.17
Colne Estuary (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 2)	2,712.13
Crouch & Roach Estuaries (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 3)	1,745.11
Dengie (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 1)	3,129.20
Foulness (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 5)	9,713.69
Hamford Water	2,187.96
Lee Valley	81.09
Outer Thames Estuary	33.51
Stour and Orwell Estuaries	1,057.71
	<b>26,611.35</b>

SAC Name	SAC Area (ha)
Epping Forest	1,292.10
Essex Estuaries	21,855.91
Hamford Water	50.34
	<b>23,198.35</b>

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## National Sites

Designation	No. ECC admin area (A)	Area (ha)	% cover of ECC admin area (A)
<b>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>31,741.22</b>	<b>8.6</b>
<b>National Nature Reserves (NNR)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6,103.18</b>	<b>1.7</b>

### Definitions

SSSI <http://www.sssi.naturalengland.org.uk/Special/sssi/search.cfm>  
NNR <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-nature-reserves-in-england>

LPA	Area (ha) covered by SSSI
Basildon	233.24
Braintree	181.37
Brentwood	205.51
Castle Point	1,107.81
Chelmsford	798.03
Colchester	3,484.09
Epping Forest	1,702.67
Harlow	47.90
Maldon	7,883.54
Rochford	10,579.84
Tendring	4,885.07
Uttlesford	632.16
	<b>31,741.22</b>

NNR Name	Area (ha)
Blackwater Estuary	1,039.90
Colne Estuary	693.00
Dengie	2,542.51
Hales Wood	8.20
Hamford Water	1,426.95
Hatfield Forest	392.62
	<b>6,103.18</b>



**Largest SSSI Foulness**  
**Smallest SSSI St Osyth Pit**

SSSI Name	SSSI Area (ha)
Abberton Reservoir	718.31
Ardleigh Gravel Pit	0.76
Ashdon Meadows	1.39
Basildon Meadows	4.77
Belcher's & Broadfield Woods	14.41
Benfleet and Southend Marshes	898.58
Blackwater Estuary	4,403.19
Blake's Wood & Lingwood Common	87.33
Bovingdon Hall Woods	71.33
Bullock Wood	23.52
Canvey Wick	93.20
Cattawade Marshes	77.53
Chalkney Wood	73.72
Clacton Cliffs & Foreshore	26.05
Colne Estuary	2,978.66
Cornmill Stream and Old River Lea	25.06
Crouch and Roach Estuaries	1,745.98
Curtismill Green	47.80
Danbury Common	70.96
Debden Water	21.27
Dengie	3,127.62
Elsenham Woods	44.42
Epping Forest	1,440.52
<b>Foulness</b>	<b>9,715.03</b>
Garnetts Wood / Barnston Lays	24.99
Garrold's Meadow	5.02
Glemsford Pits	21.97
Goldsands Road Pit	1.15
Great Wood & Dodd's Grove	37.11
Hainault Forest	97.87
Hales and Shadwell Woods	15.35
Hall's Quarry	0.70
Hamford Water	2,188.02
Hanningfield Reservoir	402.91
Harlow Woods	45.15
Harwich Foreshore	10.29
Hatfield Forest	410.78
High Wood, Dunmow	41.53

Hockley Woods	92.12
Holehaven Creek	90.49
Holland Haven Marshes	210.63
Holland On Sea Cliff	0.09
Hunsdon Mead	7.55
Little Hallingbury Marsh	4.46
Little Oakley Channel Deposit	2.95
Lofts Farm Pit	4.99
Maldon Cutting	0.16
Marks Tey Brickpit	29.82
Mill Meadows, Billericay	6.76
Newney Green Pit	0.08
Norsey Wood	65.62
Nunn Wood	9.51
Pitsea Marsh	92.34
Quendon Wood	33.51
Riddles Wood	37.94
River Ter	6.41
Roding Valley Meadows	19.34
Roman River	282.00
Sandbeach Meadows	29.38
Sawbridgeworth Marsh	0.32
<b>St Osyth Pit</b>	<b>0.07</b>
Stour and Copperas Woods, Ramsey	78.17
Stour Estuary	980.18
The Cliff, Burnham-on-Crouch	3.87
The Coppice, Kelvedon Hatch	9.34
The Naze	24.83
Thorndon Park	148.52
Thrift Wood, Woodham Ferrers	19.46
Thundersley Great Common	9.05
Tiptree Heath	24.57
Turnford & Cheshunt Pits	81.09
Upper Colne Marshes	113.19
Vange & Fobbing Marshes	38.10
Waltham Abbey	33.84
Weeleyhall Wood	31.58
West Wood, Little Sampford	23.93
Wivenhoe Gravel Pit	1.02
Woodham Walter Common	79.65

## County and Local Sites

Designation	No. ECC admin area (A)	Area (ha)	% cover of ECC admin area
<b>Local Wildlife Sites (LoWS)</b>	<b>1608</b>	<b>15,203.28</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Local Nature Reserves (LNR)</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>740.94</b>	<b>0.2</b>
<b>Special Roadside Verges (SRV)</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>61,665.00</b>	<b>n/a</b>

### Definitions

SRVs <http://www.essexbiodiversity.org.uk/species-and-habitats/roadside-verges>

LoWS <http://www.essexwt.org.uk/protecting-wildlife/local-wildlife-sites>

LNR <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/create-and-manage-local-nature-reserves>

LPA	No. of SRVs	Length (m)
Braintree	19	6,265
Brentwood	3	870
Castle Point	1	380
Chelmsford	23	5,310
Colchester	7	970
Epping Forest	16	5,710
Maldon	2	750
Rochford	2	520
Tendring	23	7,700
Uttlesford	66	33,190
	<b>162</b>	<b>61,665</b>

LPA	No. of LoWS	Area (ha)
Basildon	54	1,068.05
Braintree	251	1,962.29
Brentwood	147	1,139.75
Castle Point	40	872.16
Chelmsford	150	1,669.00
Colchester	168	1,956.71
Epping Forest	222	1,772.40
Harlow	42	299.70
Maldon	89	1,165.79
Rochford	39	361.04
Tendring	125	1,211.62
Uttlesford	281	1,724.77
	<b>1,608</b>	<b>15,203.28</b>

Number of Local Sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented in 5 years prior to 31/3/2015 = **682**  
 % of Local Sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented in 5 years prior to 31/3/2015 = **42**  
*This return is for the admin area covered by Essex County Council only. I.e. it excludes the Unitary Authorities Southend and Thurrock. It is based on information provided by the Essex Wildlife Trust (individual site liaison), Natural England (ESS, ESA & CS schemes) and the Forestry Commission (EWGS schemes).*

LPA	No. LNRs	Area (ha)
Basildon	3	113.91
Braintree	9	49.99
Brentwood	1	37.36
Castle Point	3	45.41
Chelmsford	3	67.01
Colchester	8	106.10
Epping Forest	10	96.83
Harlow	3	65.79
Maldon	1	0.00
Rochford	4	107.67
Tendring	3	50.89
	<b>48</b>	<b>740.94</b>

LNR Name	Area (ha)
Belfairs	37.11
Belton Hills	0.02
Bocking Blackwater	13.06
Brickfield and Long Meadow	3.86
Brockwell Meadows	4.31
Bull Meadows	1.35
Canvey Lake	8.27
Chelmer Valley Riverside	17.59
Chigwell Row Wood	13.81
Church Lane Flood Meadow	3.32
Colne	34.67
Colne Valley	5.06
Cuckoo Wood	2.51
Fenn Washland	4.86
Galleywood Common	44.56
Gosfield Sandpits	8.32
Harlow Marsh	13.77
Haverhill Railway Walks	0.07
Hawkenbury Meadow	1.58
Hilly Fields	37.5
Hockley Woods	91.5
Holland Haven	22.06
Home Mead	1.82
Hutton Country Park	37.36
Kendall Park	2.77
Lexden Park	8.07
Linders Field	3.89
Magnolia Fields	9.71
Marylands	3.69
Mill Meadow	36.82
Nazeing Triangle	0.54
Norsey Wood	65.64
Parndon Woods & Common	50.45
Pickers Ditch Meadow	1.86
Roding Valley Meadows	65.2
Roughtalleys Wood	3.38
Salary Brook	17.1
Spring Lane Meadows	2.01
The Railway Walks	2.71
Thornwood Common Flood Meadow	3.01
Tiptree Parish Field	2.19
Vange Hill	11.45

Weald Common Flood Meadow	1.86
Welsh Wood	3.2
Whet Mead	10.1
Wrabness	26.97

**740.96**

## Woodland and Trees

Woodland type	No. ECC admin area (B)	Area (ha)	% cover of ECC admin area (B)
<b>All woods (National Forest Inventory)</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>23390.60</b>	<b>6.7</b>
<b>All Ancient Woodland (FC Inventory)</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>8559.66</b>	<b>2.5</b>
<i>Ancient &amp; Semi-Natural Woodland</i>		7074.52	2.0
<i>Ancient Replanted Woodland</i>		1485.15	0.4

## Definitions

**NFI**

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/inventory>

**Ancient Woodland Inventory**

[http://www.gis.naturalengland.org.uk/pubs/gis/tech\\_aw.htm](http://www.gis.naturalengland.org.uk/pubs/gis/tech_aw.htm)

**NTM**

<http://www.bluesky-world.com/#!national-tree-map/c1pqz>

LPA	Area (ha) of NFI	Percentage cover of woodland (NFI)
Basildon	888.36	8.1
Braintree	3,955.12	6.5
Brentwood	1,703.56	11.1
Castle Point	516.53	11.5
Chelmsford	2,398.79	7.0
Colchester	2,774.08	8.3
Epping Forest	3,585.61	10.6
Harlow	253.61	8.3
Maldon	1,397.18	3.9
Rochford	625.85	3.7
Tendring	1,475.41	4.4
Uttlesford	3,816.51	6.0
	<b>23,390.60</b>	<b>6.7</b>

**Largest ancient woodland****Epping Forest**

LPA	No. Trees (National Tree Map)
Basildon	298,956.00
Braintree	760,519.00
Brentwood	410,140.00
Castle Point	136,303.00
Chelmsford	659,871.00
Colchester	454,154.00
Epping Forest	757,105.00
Harlow	88,051.00
Maldon	451,435.00
Rochford	195,130.00
Tendring	337,010.00
Uttlesford	744,068.00
	<b>5,292,742.00</b>



