

# Enjoy the visitor centre



- The building incorporates sustainable features including an inviting **log burning stove**.
- The GIFT SHOP stocks binoculars & telescopes, wild bird care, greeting cards, **giftware**, toys, books and much more
- An **observation gallery** offers superb panoramic views
- Discover the latest sightings news
- Experience the exciting **interpretation area**
- Enjoy **light refreshments** in a relaxed seating area
- Education room (available for hire)
- Toilets and disabled access toilet and baby changing facilities
- Wheelchair

There is something for **EVERYONE** at Hanningfield Reservoir Nature Reserve!



"Great view of the reservoir from the centre on a wet, cold day!" Kathy Parker

Picnics  
welcome!



Helping you to plan your visit



#### Opening hours:

Daily 9am – 5pm except Christmas Day and Boxing Day

#### Address:

Hawkswood Road, Downham, Billericay, Essex. CM11 1WT.

#### Grid Ref:

TQ 725 971

#### Telephone:

01268 711001

#### Email:

[hanningfield@essexwt.org.uk](mailto:hanningfield@essexwt.org.uk)

Entrance by donation / Free parking

Please note: Dogs and cycles are not permitted on the reserve

**Why not join Essex Wildlife Trust?**  
For more details about membership please do not hesitate to call:

**01621 862960**

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



**ESSEX**  
Wildlife Trust

# Hanningfield Reservoir Visitor Centre and Nature Reserve



Protecting **Wildlife** for the future and for the People of Essex



# Embark on an adventure



Take a trip to the Hanningfield Reservoir Visitor Centre where a warm welcome will always greet you.

The visitor centre is nestled in a 100 acre mature woodland reserve, and offers superb panoramic views over the 870 acre Hanningfield Reservoir.

The reserve is managed by Essex Wildlife Trust, the county's leading conservation charity and run in partnership with Essex & Suffolk Water.

It is a wonderful haven for nature, an ideal place to view the wildlife, and amongst one of the top places in the county to watch both woodland and wetland birds. The reservoir is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) due to the important numbers of wildfowl that use it.

There is always something different and of interest to see and do no matter what time of year you visit. With events, courses and activities for all ages, breath-taking scenery, wildlife in abundance and visitor centre facilities **let your quest for a great day out start here at Hanningfield!**

# Explore the reserve



There is so much to discover at Hanningfield, if you know where to look!

- To help you explore the site there is a **trail guide** available from the visitor centre and **wildlife activity bags** for the children can be hired for a small donation
- Approximately 2 and a half miles of **beautiful walks** in mature woodland to explore or just relax in with a **picnic**
- Waymarked paths guide you through woodlands, past ponds, meadows, hedges and ditches to four **birdwatching hides** including the Lyster hide which has disabled access
- The spectacle of thousands of **swifts, swallows and martins** feeding over the water during peak fly hatches is one of the delights for the summer visitor
- **30 acres of the woodland** are ancient in origin and spring flowers include carpets of Bluebells and Stitchwort
- **Orienteering trail** with 3 different lengths and levels of difficulty available
- More than 400 soprano **pipistrelle bats** gather in a maternity roost in the visitor centre roof from April to October

# Engage in an event or activity

We have a full programme of **events and activities all year round** for all ages.

- Wildlife birthday parties\*
- School holiday activities\*
- Under 5's club\*
- Adult walks, talks and courses\*
- **Family Fun Days** and fairs
- School and group visits are welcome\*

\*booking required

Call the centre for more details or look on the Essex Wildlife Trust website:

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

"This is my drawing of the woodpecker I saw at Hanningfield Reservoir Nature Reserve!" Megan Ward



"We enjoyed following the paths on the reserve and saw many birds, insects and flowers" Pam Ashton

"I loved pond dipping with the Hanningfield staff and my mum loved the bluebells in the woods" Amelie Nathan

