



Severn Valley
Country Park

We need your help!



We greatly rely on the help of members of the public to record the wide range of plants and animal species found at Severn Valley Country Park.

Recently, the County Ecologist has been reviewing records of important plants (axiophytes) and has found a drastic fall in the number of records in the last decade here at the park. Axiophytes are indicators of areas of high habitat value and of habitats that are considered important for conservation, such as ancient woodlands, clear water and species-rich meadows.

Lists of axiophytes are a great way to determine conservation priorities. Sites with many axiophytes are usually of greater importance than those with fewer; and changes in the number of axiophytes in a site over time can be used for monitoring management practices.

The fact that the number of axiophytes at Severn Valley Country Park is dropping would either suggest that habitats are declining or less people are recording plants at the park. We believe the latter to be true.

This is where we need your help. We need volunteers to submit records to the county recorder. You don't have to specifically go out with the intent to record axiophytes. You can record as part of a walk or spending time on the park with your family. Submitting records is easy. You need to give your name, species name (if you're not sure, send a photograph), the date you saw it, and the location you saw it (grid reference is ideal, but general description will be fine).

You can send these details by email to the county recorder. You can send plant records (not just axiophytes) to Sarah Whild at sarah.whild@bsbi.org. Details of all the other county recorders in Shropshire can be found here <https://shropshire.gov.uk/natural-shropshire/ecological-data-network-sedn/wildlife-and-species-recording-groups/>. The county recorder will then verify the records so they can be used in wider mapping and recording networks. They will all be uploaded to the NBN Atlas: <https://nbnatlas.org/>

The Shropshire Ecological Data Network have created a Shropshire focused list of axiophytes which can be seen here <http://shropshireecology.co.uk/ShropshireAxiophytes2015.pdf>.



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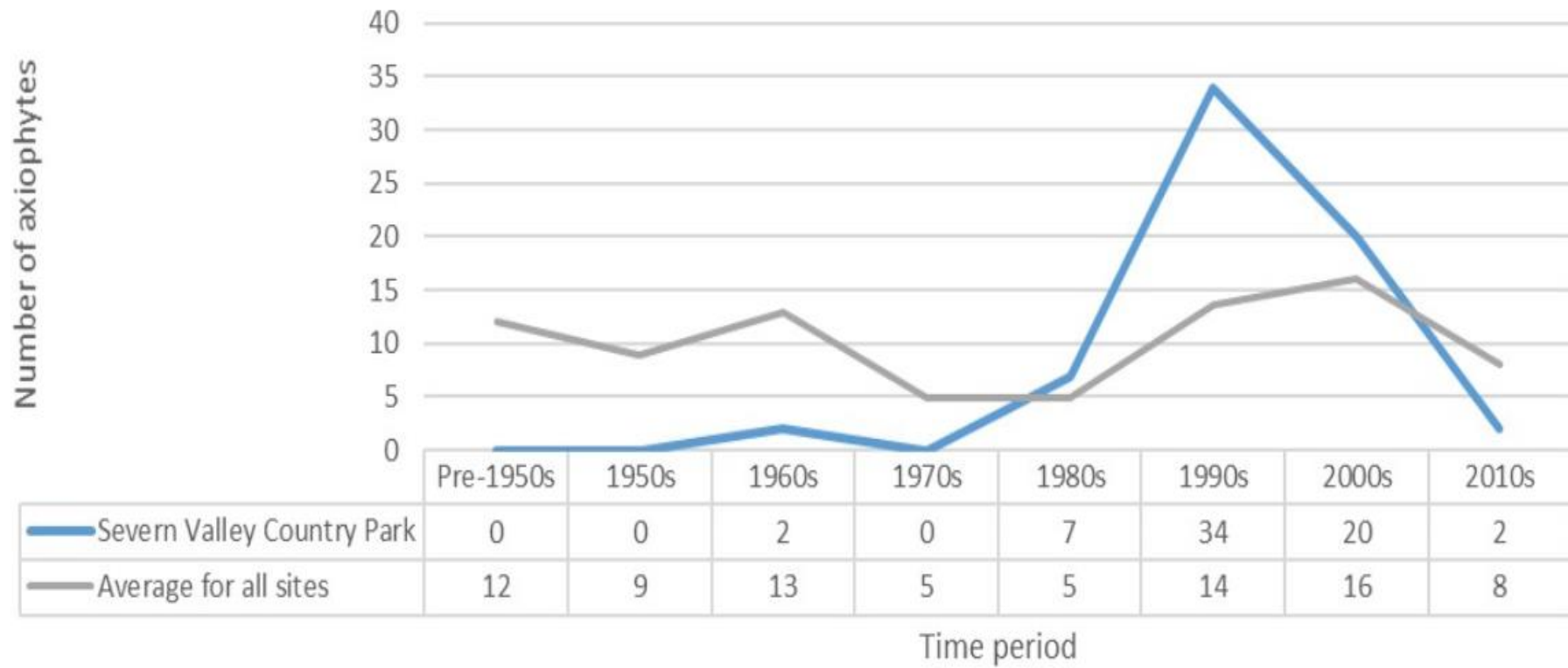


Shropshire's
GREAT
OUTDOORS



Shropshire
Council

Severn Valley Country Park



Records Of Axiophytes Across All Shropshire Council Sites

Site name	Axiophytes - all time	Pre-1950s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s
The Mere at Ellesmere	111	91	3	19	16	16	33	15	19
Severn Valley Country Park	50	0	0	2	0	7	34	20	2
Bog Mine Country Heritage Site	40	5	6	16	31	4	15	0	3
Brown Moss	92	7	8	73	41	44	57	61	54
Cole Mere	103	56	57	31	19	16	33	54	33
Corbet Wood (Grinshill Hill)	35	24	25	5	0	0	7	13	2
Albrighton & Donington LNR	2	0	0	3	1	1	1	0	0
Eardington Nature Reserve	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	22
Hodnet	32	12	13	10	2	0	8	10	0
Ifton Meadows	16	0	0	1	0	0	0	9	10
Llanymynech Limeworks	46	0	0	41	0	0	41	20	8
Lyth Hill	49	23	24	17	1	8	15	31	32
Merrington Green	28	3	4	10	0	1	11	21	0
Nescliffe & Cliffe Countryside	20	19	20	1	0	0	0	1	5
New England	33	0	0	1	0	0	0	22	25
Oswestry Racecourse	28	6	7	11	0	1	10	3	15
Poles Coppice	52	0	2	29	0	6	30	31	8
Shelf Bank (Oswestry Railway Station)	26	0	0	10	0	13	9	4	7
Snailbeach	28	4	5	4	1	4	1	16	9
Stanmore Country Park	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Steel Heath	28	0	0	16	0	4	17	22	0
Whitchurch Waterways	31	29	30	4	0	0	1	0	0
Wollerton Wildlife Site	9	0	0	1	2	0	0	7	3
Average for all sites	39	12	9	13	5	5	14	16	11

We welcome records for all our sites across Shropshire. Details of the locations of our sites can be found here <http://www.shropshiresgreatoutdoors.co.uk/parks-and-sites/>. Once again all plant records (including axiophytes) can be sent to Sarah Whild at sarah.whild@bsbi.org. Details of all the other county recorders in Shropshire can be found here <https://shropshire.gov.uk/natural-shropshire/ecological-data-network-sedn/wildlife-and-species-recording-groups/>.