

## NWT Sparham Pools Nature Reserve. TG073179

This 11 hectare site of reclaimed gravel pits is owned by the Sayer family of Sparham Hall and is run with the Norfolk Wildlife Trust, the Wensum Valley Trust and Sparham Parish Council as a nature reserve. A public footpath runs along the northern boundary and forms part of a circular trail around the reserve.

The open water forms the main body of the reserve, however a walk around reveals areas of phragmites, oak woodland, remnants of heather, gorse scrub and moss covered patches as well as grazing meadows, arable land and a series of landscaped pits viewable from the footpath. This variety ensures that throughout the year there is always something of interest

### Bird species

#### All year.

Great Crested Grebe  
Cormorant  
Common wildfowl & waterbirds  
Sparrowhawk  
Kestrel  
Common gull species  
Kingfisher  
Green Woodpecker  
Great Spotted Woodpecker  
Sky Lark  
Meadow Pipit  
Pied Wagtail  
Common scrub birds  
Marsh Tit  
Bullfinch  
Reed Bunting

#### Spring/autumn.

Passage waders

#### Summer.

Oystercatcher  
Common Tern  
Cuckoo  
Turtle Dove  
Hirundines  
Sedge Warbler  
Reed Warbler  
Common Whitethroat  
Blackcap  
Garden Warbler  
Chiffchaff  
Willow Warbler

#### Winter.

Winter thrushes  
Goosander  
Siskin  
Redpoll

Fifty yards from the reserve entrance the bridge over the River Wensum is a good place to see Grey Wagtail.

Free access at all times. Level terrain along narrow grass and mud paths with short stretch of boardwalk.

Car park but no other facilities.

To get there: take the A1067 towards Lenwade-Great Witchingham. About 1 mile west of that village take the minor road (south) to signposted Lyng. Shortly after entering the 40 mph area the road starts to go through trees. On the left, the entrance to the car park is cunningly hidden there, with a footpath signposted at the edge of the road.