

# How to Become a Hedgehog Champion

We are calling on all Tayside residents, care homes, schools and businesses to become Hedgehog Champions – to manage gardens, greenspace and school/business grounds for wildlife – and to enthuse neighbours to do the same. We can make our streets hedgehog friendly! It is only through this collaborative effort that we can create Hedgehog Highways linking gardens across whole streets, creating ideal hedgehog habitats throughout.

SCAN ME AND BECOME A CHAMPION!



## Hedgehog Conservation Status

The Western European Hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*) is now listed as **Near Threatened - as of October 2024**.

In Scotland, numbers have **dropped by 50% in 20 years**. Urban development, farming, roads, pesticides, vehicle collisions, and poorly managed gardens are all to blame.

Hedgehogs are now at **risk of becoming endangered**, with rescue centers overwhelmed by the growing number needing help.



## MIND THE GAP



Become a Hedgehog Champion

Tayside Biodiversity Partnership



CELEBRATING  
25  
YEARS



## 5-steps for a hedgehog friendly garden

1

**Hedgehog Highways**  
Create 13x13cm gaps in fences or gates to allow hedgehogs access to gardens.

2

**Hedgehog Cafe**  
Attract insects with leaf piles, logs, and compost. Offer meaty cat or dog food (no fish) or high-chicken kitten biscuits, along with fresh water all year. Avoid milk, bread, mealworms, and peanuts.

3

**Hibernation Spots**  
Offer log piles, hedges, or bramble patches with medium-sized leaves, such as beech or oak, to create sturdy winter nests around 50 cm wide.

4

**Avoid Chemicals**  
Garden chemicals like slug pellets and pesticides reduce hedgehogs' food supply. Instead, encourage hedgehogs to manage pests naturally.

5

**Safety Checks:**  
Before strimming, check for hedgehogs and cut high first. Build bonfires on the same day to prevent nesting. Add pond escape routes and secure netting to avoid entangling hedgehogs.

In case of emergency contact HogsCroft 07484649027

# About the Auchterarder Hedgehog Project

In Autumn 2024, we launched a hedgehog conservation project jointly run by Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust, and Tayside Biodiversity Partnership.

Wildlife cameras and hedgehog footprint tunnels will continue to monitor hedgehog populations. We will continue to host workshops, webinars, and give support for creating hedgehog highways.

Hibernation boxes (hogilos) will be installed in public spaces, with extras made locally for gardens.

We are encouraging our volunteers to join the Hedgehog Street initiative and help monitor hedgehogs and contribute to a national data set:

<https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/>



Auchterarder  
BIODIVERSITY  
TOWN



## Contact details and Websites

[www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk](http://www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk)

<https://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/>

If you are concerned about the welfare of a hedgehog during the day please contact the HogsCroft at **07484649027**

Want to find out more information about the projects, please contact [HedgehogHighways@gmail.com](mailto:HedgehogHighways@gmail.com)



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