



Access to the countryside



The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 gives people new rights to walk on areas of open country and registered common land. However, before the new right comes into effect the land must be mapped so everyone knows where they can walk.

There are maps for the whole of England and Wales to show open country and registered common land.

Find out about mapping in your area
www.naturalengland.org.uk/publications/maps/default.aspx

Find out the "dos and don'ts" about rights of way:
<http://www.environmentlaw.org.uk/rte.asp?id=207>



Why do you think so many more people have visited the countryside during the Coronavirus pandemic?

What problems do you think this might have caused?

<https://scnp.org.uk/visitor-management-in-the-countryside/>

Are there any National Trails in your region? What symbol is used to waymark these trails?

www.nationaltrail.co.uk/

There are many shows, events and activities held in the countryside. Use a search engine to find out about the attractions near you.

There are many ways of getting out into the countryside. Look up cycling and walking routes at <http://www.sustrans.org.uk/ncn/map>



Cycling is also very good for our health. What are the health benefits?

<https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/cycling-health-benefits>

Test your skills at planning a journey by public transport!
<http://www.traveline.info/>

When you are in the countryside, remember the Countryside Code.

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/enjoying/countrysidecode/default.aspx>



You can find out about a wide range of organisations with an interest in access and rights of way:

Ramblers Association
www.ramblers.org.uk

Open Spaces Society
www.oss.org.uk

British Horse Society
www.bhs.org.uk

British Mountaineering Council
www.thebmc.co.uk

Can you find any other societies with an interest in the countryside?

What are your own views about behaviour in the countryside?