

## Involving local communities in the recognition of what nature does for people

### Field visit and workshop

Linklater Pavilion • Lewes • East Sussex • BN7 2FG • 5<sup>th</sup> June 2014 • 10 am to 4 pm

Valuing nature's services and involving local communities are two important components of an ecosystems approach. The challenge of putting these two components together is only just beginning to be recognised. The Lewes and Ouse Valley eco-nomics (L@OVe) Group in East Sussex, together with its *Chalking up the Benefits* Nature Improvement Area project, is developing processes to engage local people in recognition of the value of nature, to improve their wellbeing and the resilience of the local economy.

**L@OVe is hosting this free event to demonstrate the tools they are developing to involve local communities in recognising the value of ecosystem services. See <http://www.lewes-eco-nomics.org/>. Participants will also be able to share their own experiences on this topic, and hear from other projects that are engaging communities. This event is for all organisations that work with communities, including those in local authorities, Wildlife Trusts and Local Nature Partnerships.**

An important starting point in engaging people is the mapping of nature's services. Sussex Wildlife Trust and the South Downs National Park Authority will present the work they are undertaking on EcoServ GIS, a new mapping tool that is being trialled by three Wildlife Trusts. See <http://www.durhamwt.co.uk/what-we-do/current-projects/ecoserv-project/>

To apply for a place, email [info@ecosystemsknowledge.net](mailto:info@ecosystemsknowledge.net) explaining how you feel you can contribute to and benefit from the event. Participants need to be members of the Ecosystems Knowledge Network (free to join via the weblink below).



*Mapping perceptions of local ecosystem services and beneficiaries*  
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#### Provisional programme

10:00	Registration
10:30	Introduction to the L@OVe Group and the tools it is developing
11:00	Talking About Our Place: How to involve local communities
11:30	Field trip to demonstrate one way ecosystem services can be communicated to people
13:00	Return to Pavilion and Lunch
13:45	Sussex Wildlife Trust and South Downs National Park Authority: A Sussex/South Downs case study of stakeholder engagement and mapping nature's services
14:15	Workshop to discuss tools, how they can be refined and applied elsewhere and their uses from Local Nature Partnerships to the landscape scale
14:45	Refreshments
15:00	Workshop session continues
15:30	Plenary feedback session
16:00	Close. Refreshments and opportunity for networking

The **Ecosystems Knowledge Network** is a free resource for anyone wanting to share knowledge or learn about the practical benefits of an ecosystems approach, a framework for managing the natural environment in a holistic and integrated way. It is funded by Defra and Scottish Government.