

## Consider Others!

Many people use the countryside for business and pleasure.

Residents and visitors alike must respect each other's interests to achieve a working harmony.

The countryside has long provided employment in agriculture, forestry, fishing and on private estates.

Nowadays, more people are visiting country areas for the scenery, wildlife, picnics and outdoor pursuits.

Intensified use by a large number of people is damaging the environment.

Small-scale, personal actions make a vital difference to the quality of the countryside we all enjoy.

**Are you making that difference?  
Read on....**



**Foster co-operation by showing courtesy and consideration to all.**

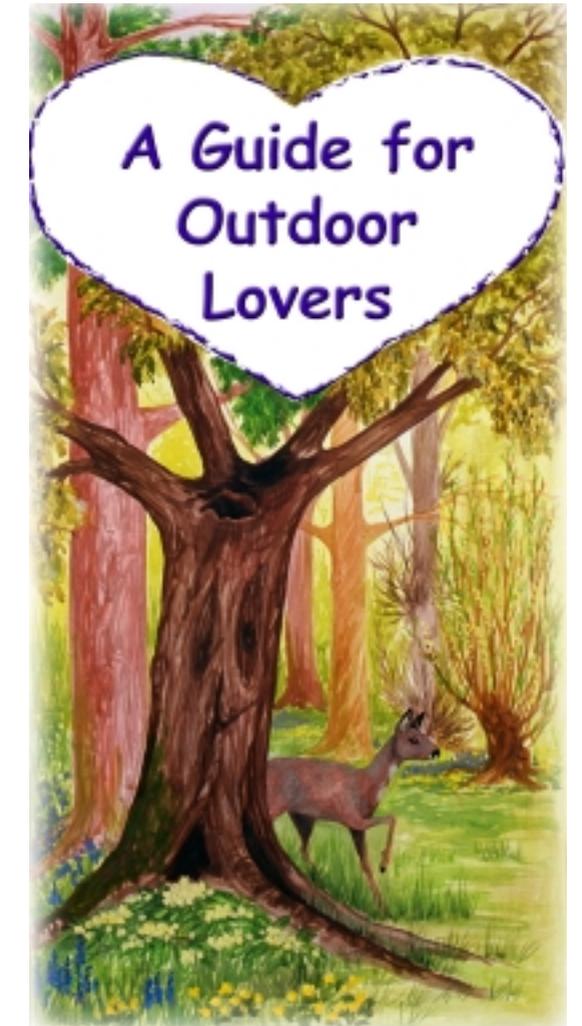
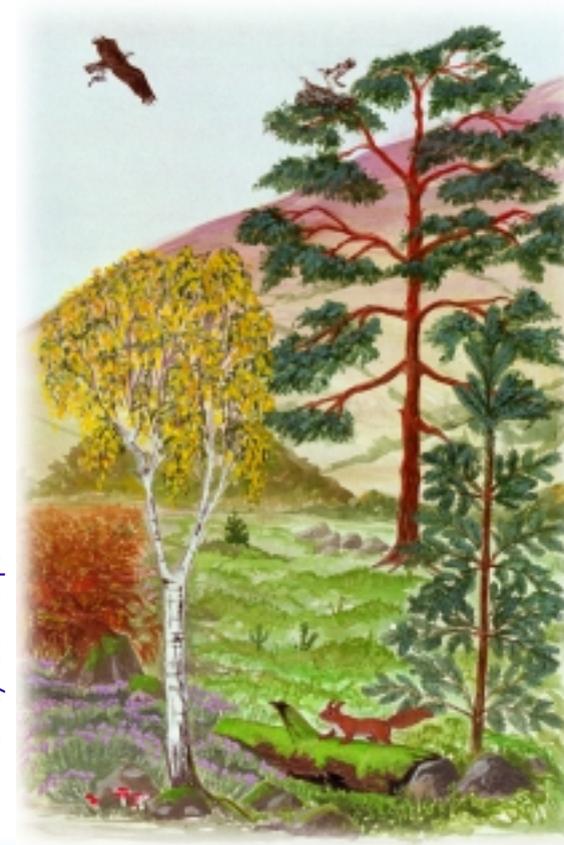
**Exercise your rights responsibly.**

Produced by the Ranger Service of  
Aberdeenshire Council

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Artwork by Kath Hamper

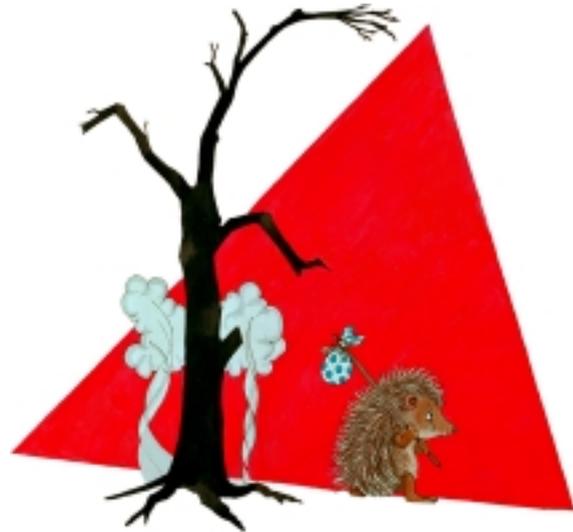


**How to enjoy  
the Countryside...**

# Care for the Countryside!

## Fire Destroys!

Open fires, while being great fun, are not welcomed in the countryside.



Disposable barbecues laid directly on the ground or on dry-stane dykes kill wildflowers, grasses and mosses.

Both fires and barbecues may damage woodlands, sand dunes, grasslands, crops and moorland and leave unsightly black scarring.

**When camping, use a stove for cooking.**

**Raise barbecues well above any vegetation. Two bricks brought from home and placed underneath disposables work well!**

**Extinguish completely all flames and hot ashes when finished.**

## Litter Harms Wildlife!

Discarded cans and bottles cruelly trap and kill tens of thousands of small mammals each year.

Food scraps encourage scavenging birds and other animals to adopt an unnatural diet. They are often then drawn into areas where they can prey on rarer nesting birds.



Plastic wrappings, fencing wire and other litter are unattractive and dangerous to people and animals.

Bags of rubbish left at the side of already full bins will be raided by crows and foxes.

**Take all litter home!**

## Beware the Problem Behind!

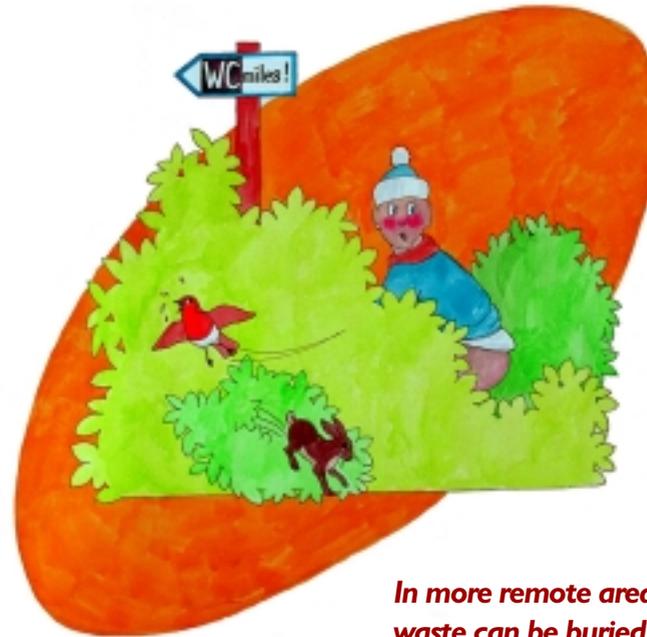
We all know: -

**"It's hard to haud what's no' in yer haun!"**

but toilets are not always present at countryside sites.

Human fouling at popular spots is a serious health hazard, so plan ahead.

**At busy picnic sites, be prepared to cut short your visit and travel to the nearest public toilets.**



**In more remote areas, waste can be buried, at least 30 metres from fresh water.**

## Good Owners Guide Dogs!

An accompanying dog is a regular sight in the countryside. However, your family pet or working dog may unnecessarily annoy or alarm other people.



Often without an owner's knowledge, a dog can foul in inappropriate places or disturb livestock and wild animals. Ducks and other ground-nesting birds are particularly at risk.

**Keep your dog under close control, or on a lead.**

## Noise Annoys!

The peace and quiet of country areas attract many people.

Loud sounds and disruptive behaviour spoil other people's pleasure and alarm farm animals and wildlife.



**Make no unnecessary noise!**