



awen

Parc Gwledig Bryngarw
Bryngarw Country Park

CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING & TEAM BUILDING

at Bryngarw Country Park

Corporate Volunteering at Bryngarw Country Park

Corporate volunteering at Bryngarw Country Park is a great way for you and your colleagues to make a real difference to the local community and demonstrate genuine social impact.

Volunteering in nature not only boosts mental and physical wellbeing but also offers opportunities for important social connections and collaborations away from the usual working environment.

Our rangers have extensive experience of working with volunteers and can create a bespoke corporate day to suit your requirements, from 5 to 30 people.

We offer lunch and refreshments, and for our two-day packages, an evening meal and overnight accommodation are provided at Bryngarw House.

All bookings include a tour of B-Leaf, our on-site horticultural training programme for adults with learning disabilities.

Did you know?

Bryngarw Country Park is managed by Awen Cultural Trust, a registered charity? All profits are reinvested into the maintenance and improvement of Bryngarw's facilities, which are enjoyed by over 200,000 visitors a year.

CONTACT US

For more information and a tailored quote, please:

Email: bryngarw.park@awen-wales.com

Phone: **01656 725155**

Why Choose Bryngarw?

By choosing Bryngarw for your next corporate away day, you're not just investing in your team – you're investing in people with learning disabilities, in community green spaces, and in the long-term sustainability of one of Wales' most loved country parks.

Your safety is paramount

Our rangers are first aid trained and each session will be appropriately risk assessed.

However, you remain legally responsible for your staff during the session.



Volunteering opportunities

Tasks will depend on the season and our priorities for the year.

Our rangers will welcome you, introduce the task and supervise the session. All training, tools and equipment are provided, but we recommend you wear appropriate outdoor clothing and sturdy footwear.

Bramble Bashing	January – March
Rhododendron Clearance	January – March // October – December
Balsam Bashing	May – July
River Clean Up and Litter Picking	May – July
Coppicing	October – December
Japanese Garden Restoration	October – December

Our 2025 prices

Corporate volunteering sessions start at £30 per person, excluding catering and overnight accommodation if required.

Please get in touch to discuss your requirements and for a tailored quote.

PACKAGE TYPE	DURATION	COST PER PERSON
Volunteering	Half-day	£30
Volunteering	Full-day	£50
Team Building	Full-day	£55
Combined (Volunteering + Team Building)	Full-day	£60
Japanese Garden Restoration	(With overnight at Bryngarw House)	Contact us for tailored quote

Optional Add-ons

- Tea & coffee Included as standard
- Breakfast roll (bacon, sausage or veggie) £3.50pp
- Lunch options (e.g. soup & sandwiches, hot meal & dessert, BBQ) From £8–£15pp
- Afternoon snacks (cake, fruit, pastries) From £2.50pp

January – March

Bramble Bashing

At Bryngarw Country Park, we love our native species. Brambles are a wonderfully successful plant that are quick to claim territory and reproduce easily and effectively. They also produce valuable protected nesting spaces for birds and small mammals.

However, they need controlling and this is where we need your help! By cutting down the brambles, you will free space for smaller plants and wildflowers and allow sunlight to filter down to the woodland floor, allowing them to flourish.

This session entails cutting away the bramble in specific woodland areas (using hand tools) and stacking the cut bramble into dead hedges and habitat piles. These become wildlife corridors for the small mammals and minibeasts living in the woodlands.

The best part about bramble bashing is coming back in April to see the carpets of bluebells and wood anemone, and realising the rewards of the hard work you put in.



January – March // October – December

Rhododendron Clearance

Rhododendron ponticum is an invasive non-native species (INNS). The popular plant may look nice, but not only can it carry disease, it is also known as an invasive species, which can wipe out huge swathes of native woodland plants, and is particularly troublesome in our rare temperate rainforest areas.

This invasive shrub spreads by prolific seeding and then thick layering of branches. This eventually forms a closed canopy, which shuts out all light to the woodland floor and reduces the rich biodiversity of our native woodlands. Rhododendrons cause trouble for a variety of landscapes and habitats, including ours at Bryngarw.

This session entails cutting the Rhododendron back to its stump in all our wooded areas, using hand tools. We arrange the cuttings into habitat piles and dead hedges to create mini-ecosystems for the minibeasts and small mammals living in the woodlands.



May – July

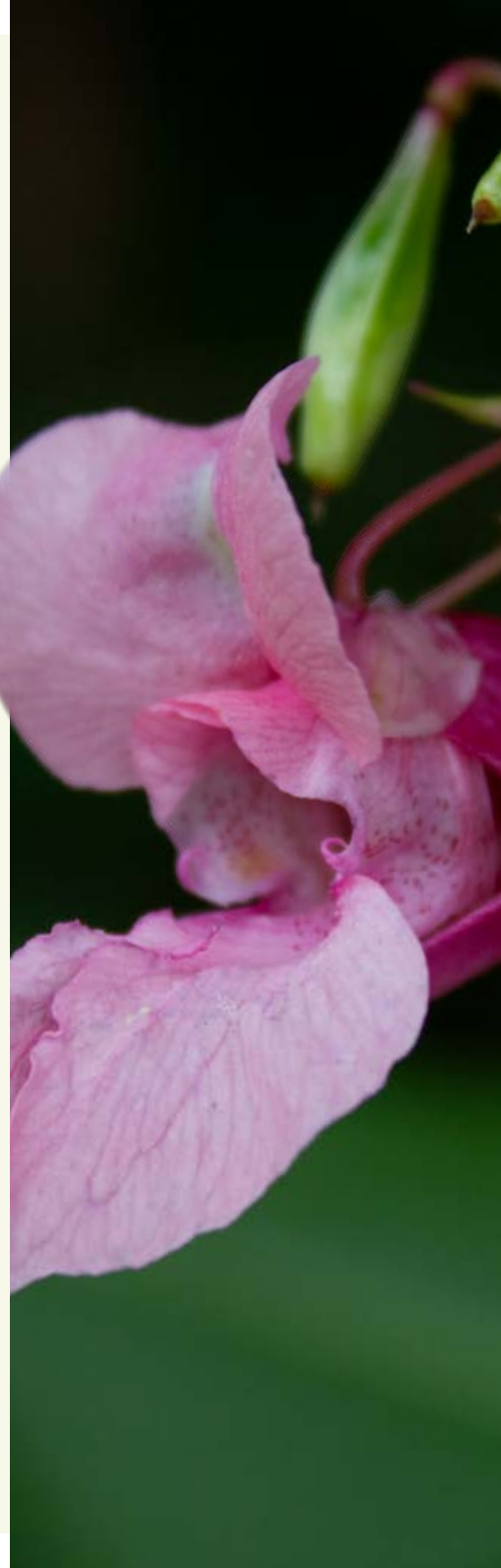
Balsam Bashing

Bryngarw Country Park has many different species of native plants, trees and flowers. We try our very best to continuously enhance and develop our wild spaces and controlling the invasive non-native species (INNS) is at the top of our list when it comes to conservation.

Himalayan Balsam is now a serious problem. First introduced to the UK in 1839 as a garden plant, the mountainous species soon naturalised itself, overpowering native plants and conquering vast amounts of land in a short space of time. Unlike some native plants it can tolerate low levels of light, towering above existing habitats and actively killing them off.

At a staggering 6-10 feet, Himalayan Balsam is our largest annual plant, growing rapidly whilst disseminating its explosive seed pods in the process. By helping us to remove Himalayan Balsam, you're ensuring native plants can flourish all year round, rather than leaving empty spaces once the plant has died back in the winter. You're allowing wildlife corridors to prosper, increasing annual biodiversity, which isn't in competition for light, nutrients and space.

This session entails hand-pulling the balsam out of the ground, snapping the stem below the first node and piling the balsam up to rot down naturally.



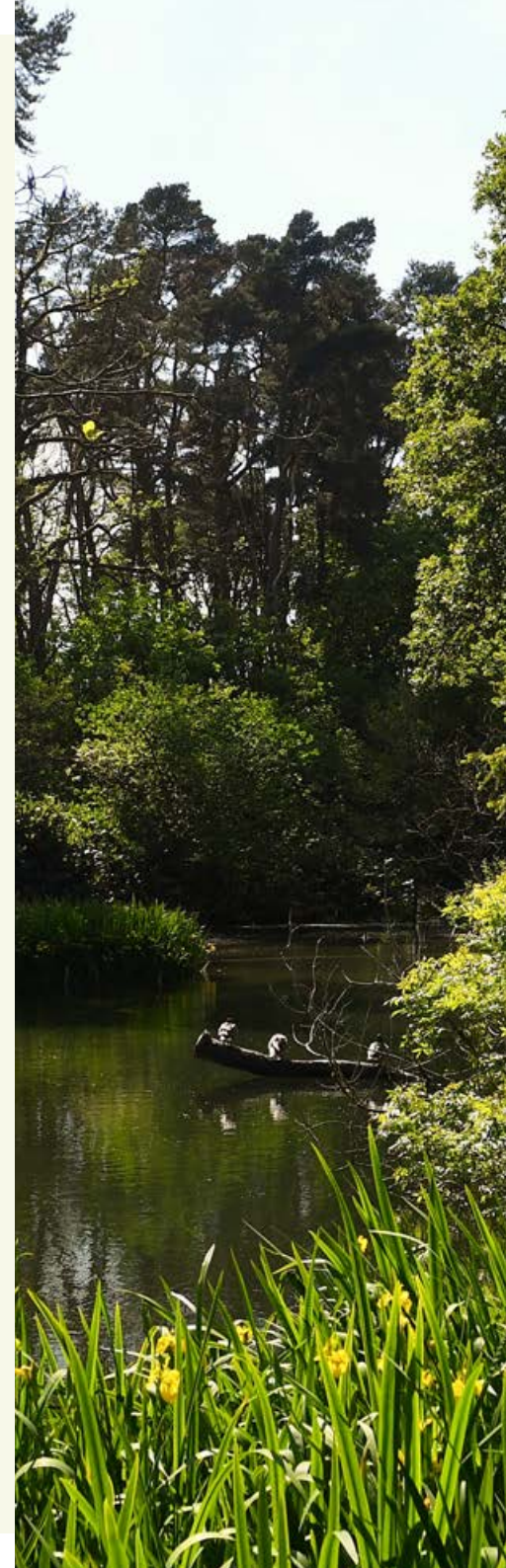
May – July

River Clean Up and Litter Picking

The River Garw runs through our park and, unfortunately, rubbish, plastics and waste are discarded and find their way into the river. Many trees have fallen into the river and whilst some believe they should be removed, this is not strictly true. Rivers, and the ecosystems they provide, thrive from having large wood debris in them, changing the flow and collecting silt. The problem occurs when discarded waste washes against these trees and creates 'litter-bergs' in our river system.

By helping us remove the waste and litter build-up, you will be helping all our freshwater species, from river birds such as the dipper and the wild brown trout that spawn here, to the caddis fly larvae and tiny insect life starting their lives in the river.

This session entails getting your wellies or waders on and manually removing litter from the river by hand or with litter pickers. Those not wanting to enter the river, can litter-pick the paths and river banks.



October – December

Coppicing

Coppicing is a traditional woodland management technique which dates back to the Stone Age. It involves felling trees at their base to create a 'stool' where new shoots will grow. You can recognise a coppiced tree by the many thin trunks or 'poles' at its base.

We actively use the coppiced wood in a variety of ways; some for firewood for our volunteer and education groups, and other parts for dead hedging and habitat creation.

This session entails cutting down small trees using a specific technique and arranging the cuttings into various size groups ready for processing. All tools and training will be provided on the day.



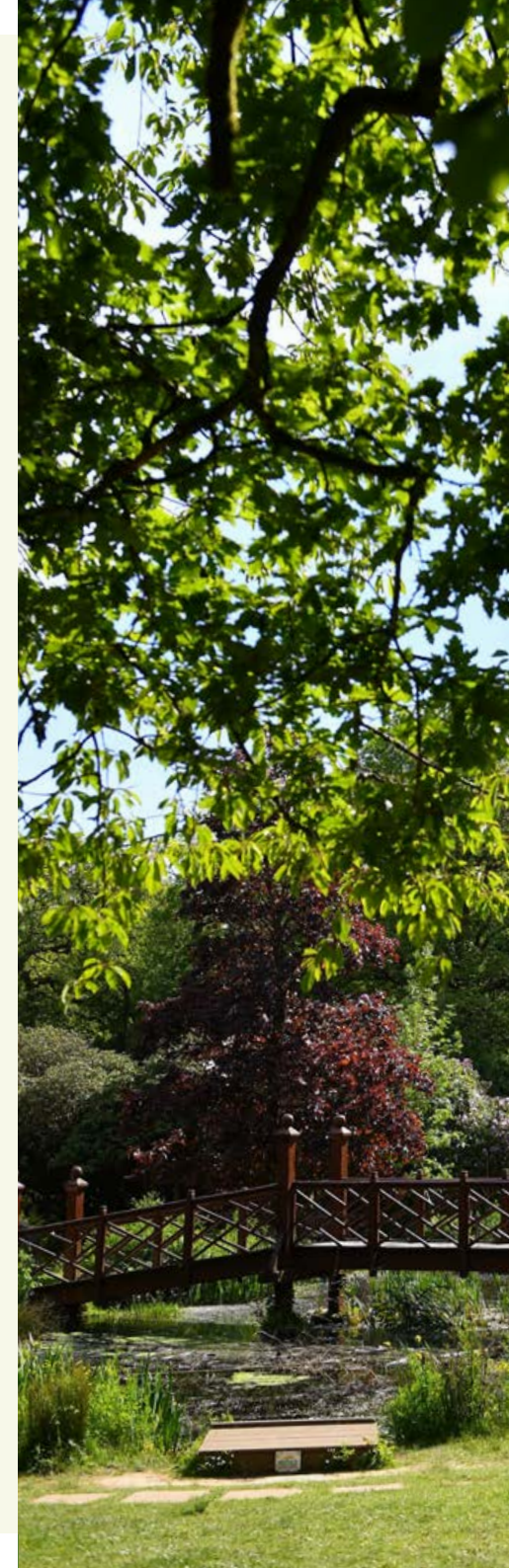
October – December

Japanese Garden Restoration

At Bryngarw Country Park we have an amazing Japanese Garden that dates back to 1910. Over the years it has lost some of its beauty due to the number of invasive species that have colonised the pond walls and trenches.

By removing the vegetation in and around the historic stonework, you will improve the area and help us restore our Japanese Garden to its original glory.

This session entails pulling and uprooting vegetation from within the stonework around the ponds and trenches, using hand tools. All tools and training will be provided on the day, wellies are advantageous as getting into the trenches is key to success.



A close-up photograph of a hand holding a ferro rod, striking it against a piece of wood to create sparks. The sparks are bright orange and yellow, and the background is a blurred natural setting.

Bushcraft Team Building – Fire by Friction

Team building activities in the great outdoors offers many benefits, from improved communication, collaboration and camaraderie among colleagues, to reduced stress and enhanced mental and physical wellbeing from spending time in nature.

At Bryngarw Country Park, groups from 5 to 20 can learn the vital bushcraft skills of fire building and lighting, led by highly experienced park rangers. Participants are taught several techniques needed to start fire by friction, essential for survival, including using:

- Ferro rods and steel strikers
- Flint and steel (yes, using an actual rock!)
- Bow drill (essentially rubbing two sticks together)

The process of gathering materials, such as tinder, kindling and larger fuel, demonstrates the importance of resourcefulness and patience; key transferable skills for the workplace. All tools will be provided.

Team building activities will take place in Bryngarw Country Park's award-winning woodlands, the ideal location for individuals to enjoy time in the fresh air and the opportunity to disconnect from their usual working environment.

Team benefits

- ✓ Working together to achieve a common goal builds trust and confidence.
- ✓ Individuals can step up and take on leadership roles during the activity.
- ✓ A shared experience can strengthen relationships between team members and departments.
- ✓ Opportunity to discover each other's strengths, fostering a more inclusive environment.
- ✓ Boosting endorphins, promoting a healthy lifestyle, improving workplace wellbeing.
- ✓ Stimulating creative and innovative thinking and problem-solving.
- ✓ A friendly competition to end the session will engage and motivate.

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Ymddiriedolaeth
Ddiwylliannol
Cultural Trust



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We invest in wellbeing Gold
Rydym yn buddsoddi mewn llesiant Aur

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE®
We invest in people Silver
Rydym yn buddsoddi mewn pobl Arian



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Awen Cultural Trust is registered in Wales as a company limited by guarantee.