biodiversity RECORDING

Greenfinch

The Greenfinch is a stocky finch, similar in size to a house sparrow. The olive-green males perform a wonderful "butterfly" display flight in which they flash their bright yellow wing feathers to impress the more dully coloured females. The canary-type song consists of trills, whistles and twitters.

The powerful bill is ideal for breaking open seeds on which they feed on throughout the year. The greenfinch is a regular garden visitor and will usually make its presence known at feeders, being bigger and stronger than other garden birds.

A recent decline in greenfinch numbers has been linked to an outbreak of disease called Trichomonosis, which prevents the birds from feeding properly.

To support greenfinches, place bird feeders in your garden especially during the winter months when food is in short supply. Remember to regularly clean bird feeders and bird baths to reduce the risk of disease.



Recording what species you see is an important way you can help your local biodiversity. To find out what you can do for local biodiversity, contact the Biodiversity Officer through your Council or on

www.biodiversityni.com

This project is supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund 'Your Heritage' Programme

