



Help us find the New Forest noble chafer

**The New Forest is the only place in the UK where
the rare noble chafer beetle has been found
outside of traditional orchards.**

On sunny, summer days these beetles have been seen basking on hogweed at the side of the A35. Other than that we know very little about this population, for example we have no idea where the females lay their eggs and the larvae develop.

In order to gain a better understanding of this vulnerable beetle, we are asking the residents and visitors of the New Forest to look in their gardens, campsites and parks for signs of the beetle.

Please turn over to see how you can help...



people's trust for
**endangered
species**

Your guide to spotting noble chafers

Noble chafer frass



The female lays her eggs in decaying wood within live trees. The larvae hatch approximately two weeks later and feed on the rotting wood debris (mould) in the cavities and hollows. As the larvae consume the wood mould, they produce characteristic droppings called frass. Since they only feed on rotting wood, noble chafers do not harm the trees they inhabit!

Tree cavity



If you have old, decaying trees in your garden, **please look inside any cavities for frass**. If you discover any, please take a small sample and send it to the PTES office with an address or grid reference for confirmation. Please be aware that other species also inhabit tree holes so please explore with care and keep disturbance to a minimum.

Rose chafer & noble chafer



The more common rose chafer (left) is similar to the noble chafer (right), please visit www.ptes.org for more information on how to distinguish between them. **Please look out for noble chafers** on hot, summer days in your garden, along verges, in parks and woodlands. They may be flying past, or visiting flowers such as hogweed and elder.

If you are lucky enough to spot one and it keeps still for long enough, please carefully take a photograph to aid identification, note your location and email the photograph and details to laura.bower@ptes.org.

THANK YOU!

People's Trust for Endangered Species
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