

Caring for the Moor

Country Code - Do's and Don'ts



- It is an offence to ride motor vehicles on the moor - this causes disturbance to wildlife and is a noise nuisance to people who want to enjoy the peace and quiet of the moor. Please report any sightings of motorcycles to the police.
- Please ensure that you keep your dog under close control when walking through farmland and on the open moorland to avoid disturbance to grazing stock and ground nesting birds. Dog fouling is an offence so please clean up after your dog. Anyone found breaking this law can be reported by ringing 0161 770 6644.
- Fly tipping is also an offence. If you notice anyone dumping rubbish please phone 0161 770 6644 to report it or use the online 'report a problem' form. Evidence of the person who has dumped the rubbish can help Oldham Council to prosecute offenders.
- To report any dog fouling, flytipping or littering online please email contact@oldham.gov.uk or contact Oldham Countryside Service on 0161 627 2608 - Tandle Hill office.

Please help us in our aim to gather information by telling us what you think of Crompton Moor or any other greenspace by visiting www.greenstat.org.uk.



Crompton Moor is an area of beauty, please help us to keep it that way by taking your rubbish home.

'Take nothing but photographs, leave nothing but footprints'

Volunteering

A large amount of work on the moor is carried out by volunteers. If you are aged 16+ and are interested in becoming a volunteer, contact 0161 620 8202 for further information.



Management for recreation and wildlife



The Life Project - Between 1996 and 1998 Crompton Moor was part of the South Pennine Moors 'Life' programme. A significant amount of money helped to improve the moorland habitats for wildlife, including restoring areas severely damaged by fire, increasing the heather on the moor, creating wet heath and pond areas, restoring dry-stone walls, the regeneration of clough woodlands and the management of conifer plantations for wildlife.

Much of this work continues to be ongoing and between 2004 and 2007 an Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund grant was received to further improve the moorland area. Work carried out included the re-landscaping of Brushes Clough car park, repairs to horse stiles, restoration of dry-stone walls, the creation of an orienteering course and new walks leaflets.



Crompton Moor is managed by Oldham Countryside Service from the Tandle Hill office. Contact details:

Oldham Countryside Service

Tandle Hill Country Park

Tandle Hill Road, Royton, Oldham OL2 5UX

Telephone: 0161 627 2608 or email env.tandlehill@oldham.gov.uk

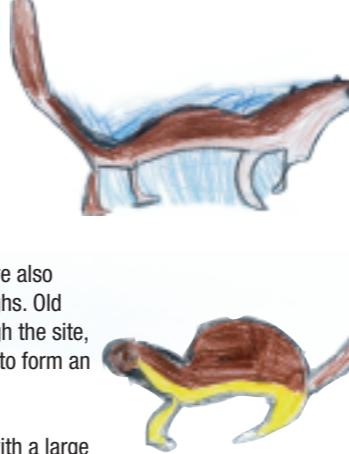
Head Office contact details are:

Oldham Countryside Service,
Strinesdale Centre, Holgate Street, Waterhead,
Oldham OL4 2JW.

Telephone: 0161 620 8202 or email rangers@oldham.gov.uk



Wildlife



Designated a Site of Biological Interest (SBI) in 2003, this extensive area of moorland consists of a mixture of acid grassland, marshy grassland, dry heath and wet bog. Much of the site is dominated by purple-moor grass with areas of significant heather cover. There are also coniferous plantations and woodland cloughs. Old Brook is the main stream that flows through the site, which falls over the edge of Pingot Quarry to form an impressive waterfall.



The site is of considerable value to birds with a large variety that can be found including kestrel, red grouse, golden plover, snipe, curlew, skylark and meadow pipit. Animals that can be seen include fox, weasel, common shrew, stoat and hare.



Recreation activities

Walking - There are several walks on the moor of different levels and a history trail depicting various features of interest on the site. Various public footpaths and desire lines criss-cross the moor, the Oldham Way and the Crompton Circuit walks also run through the site. Details of all these walks can be found in leaflets at all countryside centres in Oldham.

Orienteering - In conjunction with the Greater Manchester Orienteering Council a permanent course has been installed on the moor. There are several courses including a challenging 'light green' course for more experienced orienteers. Maps are available by calling 0161 620 8202.

Horse Riding/Cycling - A concessionary bridleway circuit for horses and cyclists links Brushes Clough Quarry with the moorland - follow the horseshoe signs.

Other activities include picnicking, bird watching, and dog walking.

CROMPTON MOOR

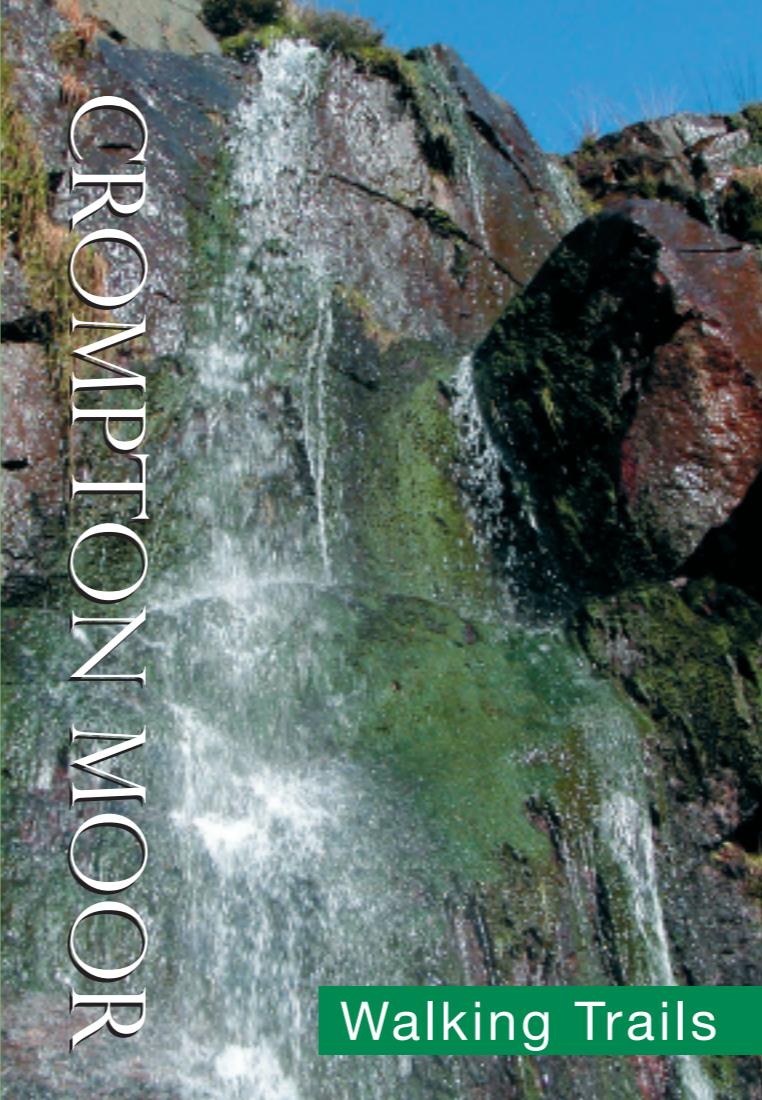
Walks



The site of Crompton Moor is made up of a variety of habitats including open moorland, plantation pine woodland and dramatic quarries. This 75 hectare site rises above the town of Shaw and forms a gateway to the Pennine hills and beyond. Enjoy walking, horse riding, cycling, bird watching and for a more challenging outdoor pursuit why not try the permanent orienteering course.

The Influence of Man. Farming

Originally this site was heather moorland and following the enclosure acts in the 18th century several farms were built, the remains of which can still be seen. Around each farm the land was divided into fields used mainly as pasture for cattle and sheep – the dry-stone wall field boundaries can still be seen.



Walking Trails

Mining and Quarrying

This area has also been mined for coal as the rock of the moor contains bands of coal very close to the surface. Remains of spoil heaps and disused mine shafts can still be seen. The coal was used at local farms and taken to Shaw to fuel the steam driven machinery in the mills. Sandstone quarrying commenced in the late 19th Century at Brushes Clough and Pingot Quarries and continued until the early part of the 20th Century. During the 1970's the quarry areas were reclaimed, thousands of trees were planted and the site was transformed into an area for recreation.

Brushes Clough Reservoir was constructed in the early part of the 19th Century using stone quarried on site. This area is now managed by United Utilities.



CROMPTON MOOR Walking Trails

All walks start from the walking trails start point in Brushes Clough car park.

Red Trail – 2.5km (1.6 miles)

The shortest and easiest trail on Crompton Moor and a good introduction to the terrain on the moor. This walk mainly follows the bridleway, with a visit to one of the woodland plantations before descending past Brushes Clough Reservoir back to the car park.

Green Trail – 3.5km (2.2 miles)

After a short walk through one of the woodland plantations, this trail includes a climb to give good views across Shaw and Oldham. Then stride across the unique heather moorland before following the bridleway past the reservoir to return to the car park.

Blue Trail – 4km (2.5 miles)

This route takes you to Crow Knowl, the high point of the site at 391 metres, and gives fantastic views across the Manchester plain. This walk is the only waymarked trail to go through Pingot Quarry and involves a short steep climb to the top of the quarry before a more steady ascent to the trigpoint at Crow Knowl. The trail continues to the far easterly point of the site before returning to the car park.

