Outdoor Sports Facilities
There are several play facilities including the Thames Valley Adventure Playground for people with disabilities. Visit www.tvap.co.uk

There are numerous private and proprietary golf clubs in the area. The South Buckinghamshire and the Academy Courses are both owned and managed by South Bucks District Council and are open to the public. The South Buckinghamshire is a challenging 18 hole Colt/Hawtree course set in 130 acres of attractive and mature wooded parkland. The Academy Course offers 9 holes on the edge of Stoke Poges and a state of the art floodlit driving range with 10 indoor bays and 5 outside.

Farnham Park Playing Fields is an attractive area of 88 acres and provides the opportunity for numerous sports to be played including football, rugby and cricket and hosts an annual softball competition.

Stoke Poges Memorial Gardens are registered as Grade I on English Heritage’s Register of Parks and Gardens of special historic interest in England.

The Gardens are managed by South Bucks District Council and include:

- A C20 funerary landscape (mid 1930s) with a complex and innovative design by a nationally renowned landscape designer and specialist in memorial gardens, Edward White.
- The design is based on the burial of ashes in small individual gardens, reflecting White’s belief in the British passion for domestic horticulture, set around a complex formal ensemble of canals and pergolas around lawns.
- It adjoins Stoke Poges churchyard, subject of the poet Thomas Gray.

More information is available at www.southbucks.gov.uk (Parks and Open Spaces page)

For further information contact: 01895 837321

Or write to:
The Landscape Officer
Environment Unit
Council Offices
Capswood
Oxford Road
Denham
Bucks
UB9 4LH

If you need this information in another format such as large print please ask us.

Landscape In South Bucks Environment

Council Offices, Capswood, Oxford Road, Denham
UB9 4LH
Telephone: 01895 837200
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www.southbucks.gov.uk
Landscape in South Bucks District

South Bucks has a wealth of parks and gardens. It has a rural character and numerous open spaces, which are especially valuable as they are so close to London and provide attractive outdoor locations for many people to visit. Most of the District is green belt with twelve registered parks and gardens and eleven scheduled ancient monuments.

The parks attract thousands of visitors a year and include the work of many important and influential figures in the history of garden design, including Henry Wise, Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown, Humphrey Repton, Gertrude Jekyll, Edwin Lutyens, Sylvia Crowe, and Geoffrey and Susan Jellicoe.

The District has several important waterways including the River Thames, the Grand Union Canal (Slough Arm), the River Colne and the Jubilee River, most with public footpaths alongside and areas for wildlife and recreation. Smaller rivers form attractive wildlife areas.

The Colne Valley Park covers 43 square miles approximately 1/3 of which falls in South Bucks along with parts of Hertfordshire, London, Berkshire and Surrey. The string of lakes, ponds and rivers through the area provide valuable wetland habitats. The park provides recreational features, such as 5 country parks, 8 golf courses, 270km of footpaths & bridleways and is used for activities associated with open water, such as angling and canoeing. The Colne Valley Park has been established to develop positive use for the green belt for landscape, wildlife, recreation, farming, education and community involvement.

For further information on the park, its attractions and events call in at the Colne Valley Park Visitor Centre in Denham (UB9 5PG), phone 01895 833375 or visit www.colnevalleypark.org.uk

Important Open Spaces in South Bucks include:

- Burnham Beeches
- Black Park
- Langley Park
- Littleworth Common
- Stoke Common

Burnham Beeches, owned and managed by the City of London Corporation, is characterised by a diverse mixture of ancient woodland, wood pasture, coppice, ponds and streams, grassland, mire and heathland. It’s most prominent features are the veteran Beech and Oak pollarded trees which provide a stable habitat for many rare and endangered deadwood species.

The site is classified as Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), a National Nature Reserve (NNR) and an internationally important Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

For further information visit: www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/Corporation/

Stoke Common, also owned and managed by the City of London Corporation, and Littleworth Common contain remnants of Buckinghamshire’s once extensive heathland and both sites are designated as SSSI.

South Bucks is particularly rich in great houses, many surviving complete with park and garden, and ancillary buildings such as lodges, stables and monuments. The area’s popularity with building patrons was probably due to its proximity to the Capital and the Court, and its Thames-side location, where the riverside is lined with historic houses and landscapes, for example:

Dropmore by Samuel Wyatt
Nashdom by Edwin Lutyens
Cliveden by Sir Charles Barry
Taplow Court by William Burn.

The District is equally rich in attractive villages and hamlets. Denham, Fulmer and Hedgerley are traditional villages with a church, a green, a public house and cottages and is also steeped in film history with one of the most important studios in England’s film history - Pinewood.

Several of the open spaces in the District have featured in well-known films such as Harry Potter (Black Park) and ‘My week with Marilyn’ which has a closing shot of the Blackwood Arms pub at Littleworth Common.

There are many areas of woodland and small nature reserves, such as Gerrards Cross Common and Holtspur Bank Nature Reserve.

Many of these areas are managed by the County, District or Parish Councils and others by local community groups. Some of the open spaces have volunteer groups that undertake valuable works.

An extensive network of footpaths covers the district, some being part of long distance footpaths such as the Beeches Way.