

Saltscape

Saltscape is an exciting new partnership project to protect, enhance and celebrate the unique landscape of the Weaver Valley.

Salt was first discovered in Cheshire as far back as the Iron Age. By 1700 the salt towns of Northwich, Winsford and Middlewich had grown around the thriving salt industry. The River Weaver was the key transport link and improvements including eleven locks were completed in 1732. Although much of the industry has finished there is a rich industrial legacy including the Anderton Boat Lift and the newly restored Lion Salt Works.

The natural environment is also shaped by salt. Salt marsh vegetation normally found on the coast thrives around brine springs while flashes created by salt subsidence and lime-beds created by industrial waste are now unique wildlife habitats.

Although many elements of the built and natural environment are protected some are at risk of being lost. Saltscape brings together a group of expert partners and the community to ensure that this special landscape is managed cohesively for future generations.



Get Involved

There are plenty of opportunities for everyone to get involved

- Family fun events
- Heritage training courses
- Volunteering opportunities
- Education workshops and field trips for schools
- Conservation trainee placements
- Grants for landowners and communities



Details of all the projects and how you can get involved are at www.saltscape.co.uk

Or contact a member of the Saltscape Team on 01606 723160
info@saltscape.co.uk



Partnership funded by



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The National Lottery
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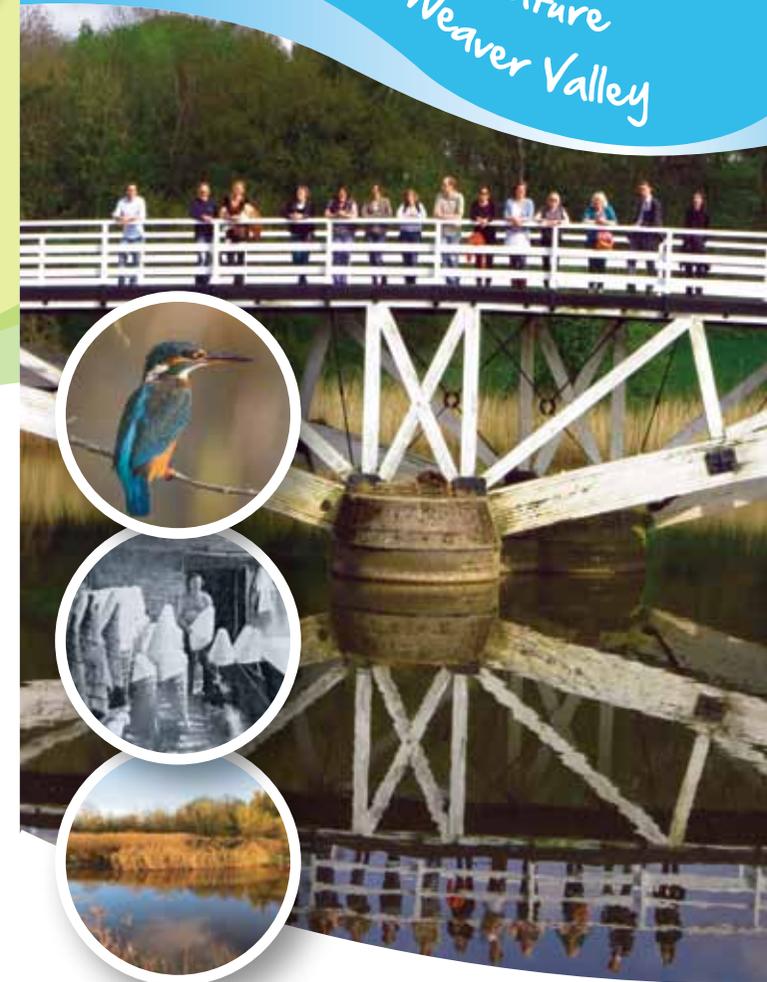


Cheshire West and Chester

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Connecting heritage, nature
and people in the Weaver Valley



The Saltscap Vision

- To protect, restore, enhance and manage this unique place as one environment.
- Reconnect people with their landscape and heritage.
- Make the area a better place to live, work and visit.

Making it happen

Over the next three years over £1.4m will be invested on projects to achieve this vision. Our projects are split into four areas:

Salt Legacy

- Restoring and protecting the natural and built features of the Weaver Valley.

Salt People

- Supporting the community to conserve the salt landscape long into the future.

Salt Way

- Making the Weaver Valley more accessible to people.

Salt Skills

- Developing specialist skills in the community.

An example of our work within each of the four areas is highlighted on the map opposite. Visit www.saltscap.co.uk for a full list of our projects.



The Saltscap

The Saltscap is an area of central Cheshire extending along the River Weaver from Frodsham to the salt towns of Northwich, Winsford and Middlewich. The landscape owes much of its distinctive character to man's exploitation of salt, creating a landscape rare both nationally and internationally.

Salt Legacy (Natural features)

Creation of Water Vole habitat at Sutton Bridge in the north of the Weaver Valley.

Salt Legacy (Built features)

Repair and refurbishment of the heritage toll buildings at Anderton Boat Lift.

Salt People

Supporting local projects through the Saltscap Community Grant Scheme.

Salt Skills

Preserving the past for the future, with local history research training and tours at the Cheshire Records Office.

Salt Way

Upgrade of the river side towpath between Vale Royal Locks and the Blue Bridge south of Northwich.

