

#study

## RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE NEED TO UNDERSTAND NATURE IN ORDER TO BETTER PROTECT IT

Structure : ReNArd (Association of Ardennes Naturalists)



Founded in 1995, ReNArd is dedicated to promoting knowledge, research, and conservation of nature in the Ardennes department. As of 2015, this nonprofit organization (under the 1901 law) had 216 members and 4 full-time staff members.

Its activities focus on several key areas: scientific research, nature conservation, public awareness, and providing information to the public and its members.

Conducted by the association's [staff](#) and [volunteers](#), these **scientific studies** contribute to improving our understanding of the flora and fauna of the Ardennes. Impact assessments, surveys, monitoring, radio tracking... ReNArd carries out numerous projects in the department in collaboration with its private and public partners.

In addition to scientific studies, **ReNArd has been involved for many years in monitoring and conserving species** such as the Eurasian scops owl, a small owl found in hedgerow landscapes. Larger and more urban in nature, the barn owl also benefits from conservation efforts, notably through the installation of nesting boxes since 2012. The association's banders, accredited by the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, carry out various banding protocols such as Migratory Stopovers, Local Bird Population Monitoring, and Temporal Monitoring of Common Birds (SPOL and STOC).

But ReNArd isn't just about birds...

The association is also committed to **bat conservation** through its participation in the "SOS Chiro" network. It assists local authorities and individuals who find injured bats and provides

guidance when a colony is present in buildings. In addition to “SOS Chiro,” **ReNArd members have been actively involved for several years in monitoring and counting bats** in both summer and winter to track population trends.

ReNArd has already carried out several projects to benefit bats, notably the renovation of a lockkeeper’s house, in agreement with the owners, to increase the site’s capacity to accommodate the species already present.

From time to time, ReNArd and its members engage in **the restoration of sites losing their ecological potential**, particularly in wetlands, with the aim of supporting the species found there.

To **raise awareness** among as many people as possible, the association regularly organizes outings where volunteers and staff teach you how to listen to and observe nature. **All public outings organized by ReNArd are free** and open to everyone.

## Liens

<https://www.renard-asso.org/>