

Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre Equipment Loan Scheme: Microscopes

Who can borrow?

Anybody with a membership to a local conservation organisation; a Cumbrian natural history society; biological recording group, scheme or society; or whom previously has contributed records to Tullie House / Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre. The borrower should be resident in Cumbria or live nearby and be actively recording in Cumbria. Loan of equipment is at the discretion of the Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre at Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery Trust.

How do I Borrow?

- Loans are made without charge or service fee by simply filling out a microscope loan request form downloadable from the CBDC website and returning the completed form to info@cbdc.org.uk or CBDC, Tullie House Museum, Castle Street, Carlisle CA3 8TP. You will then be contacted to organise the loan period and collection. Alternatively contact CBDC on 01228 618717 / 618732 to find out equipment availability.
- A microscope loan request should be received at least 48 hours in advance of when the loan is expected to commence.
- Only 1 microscope can be borrowed per household at any time.

Loan periods

- Equipment is loaned out on a first come, first served basis for up to **3 months**.
- A loan extension request may be made in the final week before the expiration of the original loan to extend for a further **3 months**, subject to availability.

Penalties for overdue loans

- The sum of £1 will be chargeable for each day a microscope is kept beyond the agreed loan expiration date.

Terms and conditions of use

- The borrower is fully responsible for the microscope's security and safety. If a microscope is lost or damaged upon return, the borrower must reimburse CBDC for replacement costs (£240). Items must be returned in the same condition as when they were checked out. CBDC reserves the right to charge for time spent cleaning or repairing returned items if needed. CBDC cannot be responsible for any transport costs associated with sending or received any loaned microscopes.
- Loaned microscopes **must**:
 - i) Be used for the common good in areas of conservation, research, or education.
 - ii) Be used for non-commercial purposes only.
 - iii) Only be used by the borrower specified in this form.
- Records of all identified specimens / material must be sent to CBDC for inclusion in the county wildlife database.