

Pond for every Parish - Norfolk Ponds Project

admin@norfolkponds.org | THU JUN 4 4:40 PM | 3 minute(s) read

Dear Councillor / Parish Clerk,

On behalf of the Norfolk Ponds Project CIC, I am writing to introduce our new initiative, A Pond for Every Parish, and to invite your parish to express an interest in taking part.

We are pleased to share that our funding application to Awards for All England has been successful, allowing this exciting community and biodiversity project to move forward over the coming years.

The aim of the project is to help communities learn more about the ponds within their parish and support local action to monitor, record and protect these important habitats for biodiversity.

The formal launch of the project is planned for September 2026, but we are contacting parishes now to begin building interest and identifying communities who may wish to become involved.

The first stage of the project will involve a training programme for two volunteers from each participating parish. These volunteers will become the main local contacts for the project within their parish. At present, we are referring to these volunteers as Pond Ambassadors, although this may evolve as the project develops.

The training will introduce participants to:

- the importance and history of ponds in Norfolk,
- pond biodiversity and conservation,
- simple recording and monitoring approaches, and
- ways to engage local communities with their parish ponds.

As part of the programme, we will provide a ready-made presentation and supporting materials that volunteers can use within their parish to help share information locally and encourage residents to begin identifying and recording ponds during the winter survey period.

Importantly, volunteers will not be expected to be experts or experienced public speakers. The project is designed to support and guide participants throughout, and we will provide all the resources, training and encouragement needed to help them feel confident and comfortable in the role.

For this first year, we expect to have approximately 30** parish spaces available**.

If your parish may be interested in taking part, we would be very grateful if you could complete our short Expression of Interest form using the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/QU5MYfuwJ8?origin=lpLink>

At this stage, completing the form simply helps us understand the level of interest and begin planning future communications and training opportunities.

In the meantime, parish councils may wish to begin considering whether there may be local residents, councillors or volunteers who:

- have an interest in wildlife, local history or the environment,
- are enthusiastic about community projects, and
- may enjoy helping to coordinate and share information locally.

We hope this project will help strengthen local knowledge of Norfolk's ponds while encouraging greater community involvement in protecting these valuable habitats for future generations.

We look forward to hearing from you and sharing further details as the project develops.

We are also currently advertising an award to promote the good work people are undertaking in Norfolk on local ponds to support wildlife, and would really appreciate if you could please share the below on your social media for us. The award is free to apply for and all the details are found on the following link:

<https://norfolkponds.org/richard-waddingham-pond-award/>

You can also nominate other people so if you know of anyone who has been doing great work for pond conservation then we would be grateful if you could fill in this form or pass the details of the award on to them.

Kind regards,

Claire Stone
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Norfolk Ponds Project
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