

APPLICATION FOR A POND – POLICY AND SPECIFICATION

Having a pond is not the primary purpose of having an allotment, as an allotment is for growing a mix of vegetables, fruit and flowers.

However, it is recognised that there are environmental benefits to having a pond on each site but there will be a limit on the number each site will require or support.

The AGA need to be mindful that ponds can also be hazardous for young children and for some wildlife and we must take steps in their design to mitigate these risks.

Children aged between one and two are particularly at risk of drowning in ponds. As the child increases in age, the risk decreases.

Even the shallowest of ponds can be lethal - from a child's perspective, a 500mm deep pond is equivalent to an adult falling into 1800mm of water – the child being unable to climb out of the water.

Our Insurers state that you must undertake a risk assessment, ensure all works are completed by a professional and ensure the pond does not affect any surrounding plots. Applicants need to note that your insurance is invalid on the allotment if you do not follow this policy and its requirements

Application for a Pond

Each pond application will be treated on an individual basis per site and will be discussed, approved or rejected by the AGA committee. The decision to approve or reject an application will be based on specification, site knowledge and the number of ponds already in place.

If approved the tenant must agree to comply with this policy and the following

- to fill in the pond on termination of your tenancy.
- to keep the pond in good repair
- to take all reasonable measures and agree to maintain its safety for both people and animals.

Specification

- The pond may cover a maximum area of 3 sq. mt. – e.g. 2m x 1.5m or 1.75m x 1.75.
- The pond must be covered with a **rigid metal grille or mesh cover strong enough to support a child's weight should they fall into the pond.**
The grille aperture should not exceed 120x120mm (5").
- The metal grille should be installed securely and not sag below the water surface.
- The depth of the pond should not exceed 450mm (17")
- The pond must have gently sloping edges of 15cm (6" depth) or less, all around as this is crucial for amphibians and birds.

APPLICATION FOR A POND

The location of the pond must be approved in advance by the site manager, and this must be in an area as far from any access paths as possible and with no trip hazards present.

The design and specification of the pond together with a risk assessment, must be submitted by the applicant with this application

Name Site.....Plot No.....

I apply for a pond, for which I take full responsibility, to be located on my allotment plot. I agree to abide by the policy and specifications as detailed above and agree that the AGA may request the pond to be filled in/removed at any time should this be required.

Signed (Tenant).....Date.....