Ponds and other waterbodies

Ponds are highly beneficial for wildlife and wildlife conservation. They provide habitat, food, and water for a wide variety of organisms. By creating ponds and other waterbodies, we can help to support local wildlife populations.

Ponds can be created by digging a small hole in the ground and filling it with water. They can also be created by diverting a stream of water into a small area of land. Once the pond is created, it should be left undisturbed to allow the plants and animals to establish themselves.

Involving members

Enriching a pond for wildlife involves not just the care management of water quality, but also the provision of food and shelter for the wildlife. The management committee and the estate manager can make suggestions for ways in which to enrich everyone on board:

- Planting marginal plants with local wildlife interests.
- Setting up a pond dipping area to observe the wildlife.
- Setting up feeding stations for birds and other wildlife.
- Creating shaded areas to protect the wildlife from the sun.
- Setting up water features to create habitats for aquatic wildlife.

Further reading and references

- Kent Wildlife Trust.
- The Wetland Project.
- The RSPB.
- The NCC.

More information can be found on the Kent Wildlife Trust website: www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk