

Guidance For Ponds

Pond on allotments are permitted (for environmental reasons). However, tenants need to be mindful that ponds can also be hazardous for young children and for some wildlife and should take steps in their design to mitigate these risks.

Also having a pond is not the primary purpose of having an allotment, which is vegetable/ fruit/ flower growing.



For this reason, ponds must be of a size that is reasonable when considered to the overall size of the plot. Usually we would expect this to be less than 5% on of the plot size.

Ponds are permitted on plots for environmental purposes only (unless permission has been granted for the keeping of ducks.) Ponds primarily for the keeping ornamental or edible fish (e.g. Koi Carp) are not permitted.

The overriding consideration when thinking of installing a pond is its potential hazard with respect to people or animals.

New ponds created using old baths are potentially hazardous and are not permitted.

Ponds that are excessively deep are not permitted; a depth of greater than 3ft is rarely needed.

Tenants must demonstrate that they have taken seriously the need to aid animals, including hedgehogs etc., in escaping from the pond. This might be with planks or a shelved area with low incline.

Tenants should demonstrate that they have taken into consideration the danger to small children. For example, generally ponds on open access sites should be on plots that are fenced/ hedged with a gate, or in an area as far from access paths as possible.

Tenants who apply for permission to install a pond must agree to keep the pond in good repair and take all reasonable measures to *maintain* its safety for both people and animals.

When a tenant relinquishes their tenancy, YACIO will assess whether they think it makes sense to keep the pond. YACIO maintains the right to ask the tenant to fill in their pond or YACIO may retain the deposit if it has to undertake this work itself.

You can obtain a copy of the Permission Form from your Site Secretary or the Administrator.