

# Can you see any of these in or around your pond?



## Common Frog

- Smooth, moist skin
- Long hind legs



## Common Toad

- Dry, warty skin
- Orange or copper eyes



## Tadpole

These are the larvae (young) of frogs and toads. The different species are difficult to tell apart.



## Frogspawn

- Frog eggs laid in clumps of jelly



## Toadspawn

- Toad eggs laid in strings of jelly



## Fish

Many types of fish live in ponds. Here is a stickleback, a tough little fish, with three short spines along its back.



## Water Snail

Often seen in the water stuck to the side or the bottom of the pond.

## Smooth Newt



## Smooth or Palmate Newt

Two types of newt which look similar

- About 10cm long
- Smooth, brownish-coloured skin

## Palmate Newt



## Great Crested Newt

- About 17cm long
- Dark, warty skin

A protected species, so should not be disturbed.



## Duck

Ducks such as Mallards are often seen on ponds.



## Dragonfly

- Brightly coloured



## Pond Skater

- Long, thin body
- Long legs



## Water Boatman

- Body shaped like a boat
- Two of its legs look like a pair of oars

# Survey Form

You probably won't see everything on this form: just record as much as you can.

### 1. Where is your pond?

Nearest town .....  
 County .....  
 Postcode or grid reference .....

### 2. What type of pond is it?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden pond            | <input type="checkbox"/> Pond in a nature reserve |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pond in a public place | <input type="checkbox"/> Pond in a school ground  |

### 3. What was the date of your visit?.....

### 4. Can you see any of the following animals? Use the ID pictures to help you.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Common frog   | <input type="checkbox"/> Water snail            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Common toad   | <input type="checkbox"/> Fish                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frogspawn     | <input type="checkbox"/> Duck or Mallard        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toadspawn     | <input type="checkbox"/> Dragonfly              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tadpole       | <input type="checkbox"/> Smooth or Palmate newt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pond skater   | <input type="checkbox"/> Great crested newt     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water boatman |   |

### 5. Can you estimate how deep your pond is? .....

### 6. Your details:

Name .....  
 Address .....  
 Postcode .....  
 Email address .....

- Tick if you would like to receive a free pond pack
- Tick if you would like to join the mailing list to be kept up to date with future surveys and wildlife events



Thanks to Rob Lunan, INCA and www.northeastwildlife.co.uk for wildlife images

### The region's wildlife needs your help!

Tell us more about ponds in your neighbourhood and help to protect the animals and plants that live there for the future.

#### Why?

Ponds are treasure troves of wildlife, home to all sorts of creatures like microscopic bugs, dragonflies, newts and birds, who depend on the pond to keep them alive.

However, ponds are disappearing at an alarming rate, through building developments, pollution and neglect. Your survey will tell us about the ponds here in the North East and the wildlife they support.

#### Where am I likely to find a pond?

Anywhere! In your garden, school grounds or local park. They are often found along public footpaths, in country parks or in nature reserves.

#### How do I get started?

Visit a pond in your neighbourhood and record information about it and the plants and animals living there. You don't even need to get into the pond or use a net!

Fill in the survey form on the back of this leaflet and send it back to us (no stamp required) to receive your **free** pond pack, filled with activities and information.

#### What will happen to my information?

Your records will be shared with wildlife organisations to help with the conservation of ponds.

#### Who put this survey together?

The EYE Project and the Tees Valley Biodiversity Partnership.

The EYE Project aims to get everyone involved in learning more about the region's environment and helping to protect it for the future.

Visit [www.eyeproject.org.uk](http://www.eyeproject.org.uk) to record other wildlife sightings online.

The Tees Valley Biodiversity Partnership works to conserve, enhance and promote wildlife through the delivery of a Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) for the Tees Valley. There are six LBAPs in the North East.

Visit [www.nebiodiversity.org.uk](http://www.nebiodiversity.org.uk) to find out more.

#### What should I be careful about?

**Ponds can be dangerous. Please be aware that you are carrying out this survey at your own risk. Here are some of our safety tips:**

- Don't enter the water.
- Don't lean over the water or you may be in danger of falling in.
- Don't stand on any unstable banks around the pond.
- It is safer and more fun to survey with a friend. Always let someone know where you are going.
- Ensure that any children are supervised.
- Wash your hands afterwards.

Dip your toe into the survey...  
open out this page to start recording



the eye project: exploring your environment  
[www.eyeproject.org.uk](http://www.eyeproject.org.uk)

# The Northumbrian Water Pond Survey

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