



- FARMING & WILDLIFE ADVISORY GROUP (FWAG)

PLANNING A POND – FEATURES OF VALUE TO WILDLIFE

1. A convoluted shore-line. Produces a large area for emergent plants to take root, and sheltered secluded bays for wildlife
 2. Low shrubs. Provide shelter for bays without shading out plant life in the water.
 3. Shelter belt of trees and shrubs on the northern side, well back (c.15 metres) from the water to prevent shading and reduce leaf-fall into the water. Surrounding tree: should allow at least a 30-35° approach angle for waterfowl.
 4. Open, unshaded south side, which allows pond life to get plenty of light.
 5. A few shore-line trees which provide shade for waterfowl and fish.
 6. Gently sloping shoreline and shallows, allows birds and amphibians to enter and leave the water. A lip of 50mm can defeat a small duckling.
 7. Variation in depth. Different plants prefer different depths of water – see the Bank Profile Design sheet.
 8. Deep water refuge (1.5 to 2 metres) provides over-wintering area for fish and a refuge and cold water oxygen 'store' in hot weather.
 9. Island for basking birds, safe from predators and with clear visibility. In small ponds a floating island disguised with reeds is more practical.
 10. Some spoil can be banked up and compacted to form a steep slope suitable for Martin Kingfishers to nest in. Pipes and artificial chambers can be incorporated.
 11. Reed beds. Sheltered feeding areas for waterfowl and nesting area for several species of songbirds. Reeds can be prevented from colonising further into the pond and isolated into specific areas by digging a deep water trench around them (0.6 – 1.0 metres).
 12. Marshy area. Different species of plants may be found here, feeding and nesting area for waders such as Snipe. Created by scraping an area to within a few centimetres of the water level or taking advantage of an existing damp area.
 13. The surrounding area may be suitable for reseeding with wildflower and grass seed mix if the soil is unproductive or subsoil is spread on the surface to reduce the overall fertility.
 14. MIXED HEDGING FOR SMALL BIRDS
Hawthorn (*Crataegus Monogyna*)
Elder (*Sambucus Nigra*)
Blackthorn (*Prunus Spinosa*)
Buckthorn (*Rhamnus Cathartica*)
- Mixed hedging to be planted in double rows using 600mm high plants at 200mm spacings in a mix comprising 25% of each species.

~~SITE~~

LOCATION PLAN.
1/10000.



SUPERSEDED

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