

Clean Water for Wildlife survey

Joining in with the survey is fun and simple. Use the kit to find out more about your favourite local spots, or take it further away, perhaps as part of a walk or even on holiday!

You can collect water from one or more sites - including rivers, streams, ponds, ditches and canals. You can even check the water in your garden pond, school pond, water butt or the kitchen tap. Visit your site once, or go back several times during the year and keep a record of any changes.

We want to encourage as many people as possible to take part. You may be a landowner, part of a community group, wildlife organisation, business, school or college. Both groups and keen individuals are welcome to participate.

Summary of the steps involved

- Identify the body of water you want to test.
- Take a water sample (see Health and Safety Info Pack).
- Measure the amount of two nutrients in the water, nitrate and phosphate, using the kits.
- Fill out a survey sheet for each site.
- Tell us what you've found - enter the data online so that it contributes to the national survey database or email us your results.



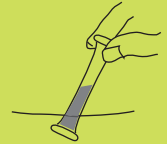
Using your clean water kits

You use one phosphate and one nitrate tube for each water sample (marked N for nitrate or P for phosphate on the tab at the base of the tube)

- 1 Pull out and discard the yellow pin leaving a small air hole
- 2 With the air hole pointing upwards, use your finger and thumb to squeeze out the air
- 3 Keeping the air squeezed out, turn the tube upside down and insert below the water
- 4 Gently release the pressure and suck up enough water to fill the tube just over half way
- 5 If you need to, turn the tube upright again, squeeze out a bit more air to suck up more water to just over half way
- 6 Gently shake the tube to mix the water and powder inside
- 7 Make a note of the time and wait for the colour reaction



Still squeezing, turn tube upside down and insert below the water and squeeze out the air



Let go, to suck up just over half a tube of water

Nitrate: 3 mins

Phosphate: 5 mins

- 8 Compare the tube with the colour chart immediately when the time is up, as the colour will continue to develop.
- 9 Record the results below and enter them online or via email



Leave for the set time and compare with the colour chart



Clean Water for Wildlife is one of three projects within Freshwater Habitats Trust's People, Ponds and Water Project, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. freshwaterhabitats.org.uk/projects/clean-water

Recording your Clean Water for Wildlife results



Surveyor names(s) - your name and anyone with you collecting the sample e.g Anne Smith, John Smith

Recording Group - if you are collecting results on behalf of a group, enter the name e.g. Wild About Cheshire

Email - Please supply your email address to receive the online results for your survey.

Grid reference e.g. SP 3212 6543 or nearest postcode

If you don't know either of these, make notes of the waterbody location (e.g. name of nearest road), so you can find the site later on a map. See the website for more help.

Date

dd/mm/yy

What type of waterbody did you sample? (please tick one)

Garden pond Other pond Lake Ditch River Stream

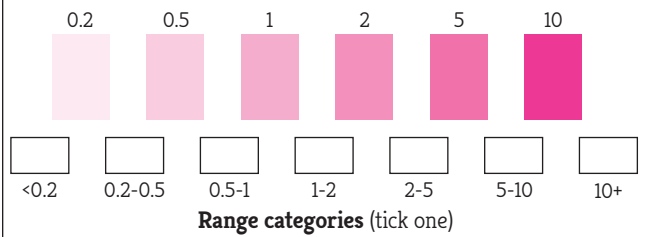
Other (please state)

Name of waterbody e.g. Collier Pond, or Pond in Stubbs Wood (if pond name not known)

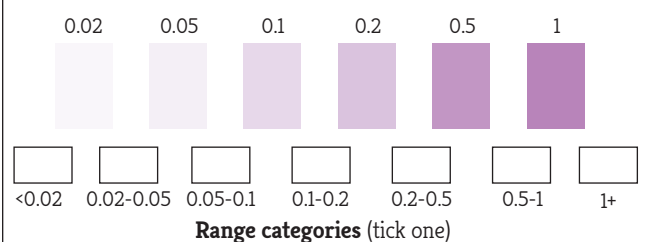
Recording the level of nutrients

- 1 Once the development time is up, compare your N or P tube with the corresponding chart (right).
- 2 The chart is based on ranges e.g. my colour falls between 0.5 and 1. Tick one.
- 3 If the tube hasn't changed colour at all - tick the lowest range category <0.2 N, or <0.02 P
- 4 If your tube matches one colour exactly, tick the higher range e.g. if recording 0.5, tick the range 0.5-1.

N: Nitrate (ppm) colour chart Wait 3 mins



P: Phosphate (ppm) colour chart Wait 5 mins



Submit your results online using the PPW WaterNet hub or via email to [Laura Quinlan](mailto:Laura.Quinlan@peoplepondswater@freshwaterhabitats.org.uk) [peoplepondswater@freshwaterhabitats.org.uk](mailto:Laura.Quinlan@peoplepondswater@freshwaterhabitats.org.uk)