

Nepcote Green Dew Pond Maintenance Plan

1. To maintain the pond for 10 years from the date of the SDNPT Grant Agreement, commencing 10th Feb 2023.
2. To maintain capital infrastructure assets (i.e. fences, gates and interpretation panel) for a minimum period of 5 years from the date of installation.
3. To prevent dogs from accessing the pond to avoid disturbance to wildlife, damage to the liner and the risk of dog treatment chemicals entering the water.
4. To leave the pond to mature and colonise naturally, rather than to plant it with imported plants. If FPC do wish to consider planting in and around the pond, advice should be sought from e.g. SDNPA Rangers, [Froglife](#) or independent specialists such as Pete The Pond, about plant suitability and where to source them. The introduction of aquatic fauna from other ponds should be strongly discouraged because natural colonisation is by far the best long-term option for the health of the pond.
5. To monitor the growth of overhanging trees and vegetation. If excessive shading, leaf fall or root growth appear to be having a negative impact on the structure or wildlife value of the pond, inspect with a view to removal or thinning to mitigate these impacts. Seek advice from pond specialists for further guidance if required. NB. Avoid works during bird nesting season between March and August, and ideally any removal of scrub and similar ground cover needs to be carried out during late Autumn (September/October) whilst most species are not hibernating and will have moved away from the pond area.
6. To monitor aquatic and marginal plant growth to ensure that the pond continues to provide a valuable ecological resource. This vegetation may need managing periodically, (or perhaps not at all) but if doing so seek to minimise disturbance by only removing a proportion at a time, and carry out works in late autumn when there are least amphibians in the pond. Again, seek advice from SDNPA Rangers, an independent pond specialist or online resources such as Froglife – see [Creating or improving ponds \(froglife.org\)](#).
7. To control any invasive non-native species should they find their way into the pond (e.g. Parrots Feather).
8. To carry out a Pond Survey in year 2 (2025) and every 3 years thereafter, or more often if desired. A basic level of survey information will help to inform management decisions and provide FPC with some interesting information about the species using the pond. The Freshwater Habitats Trust provides [National Pond Survey](#) documents on its website, and Froglife are currently running some local pond surveyor training as part of their [Discovering Dewponds](#) project. You could also seek advice from SDNPA Rangers. Please can any amphibian species data be shared with the SDNP and our Pounds for Ponds sponsor, Froglife.
9. If FPC sell the land, you are responsible for ensuring these maintenance and use conditions are passed on to the new owner and evidence of this communication sent to the SDNPT.

Signed on Our behalf by

Print Name

FAY PATTINSON

Date Signed

10th May 2024

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature is written in a cursive style and appears to read 'F. Pattinson'.

Signed by You

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Print Name

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Date Signed

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