



Grovelands Park Wetlands, Salmons Brook Catchment, Enfield

The story so far

This project focused on reducing damage from misconnected pipes. Many homes were discharging waste water into rainwater drains, which fed directly into a large boating lake and stream in Grovelands Park. A reedbed was created to increase oxygen levels, provide new habitat and buffer the lake from pollutants; helping to break them down naturally. A wetland was also created to intercept household and road run-off pollutants.

The stream was restored by

- Creating wetlands to improve water quality and enhance habitat and biodiversity
- Planting sedges in the wetlands to take up phosphate and nitrogen from the water. Bacteria growing in the sediment and root systems break down oils and some reduce levels of heavy metals in the water.
- Creating a new reedbed in the lake

- Bringing 320m of stream above ground once more, by blocking off its underground channel

How has it helped wildlife?

- The stretch of stream running above ground, and the new reedbed are attracting new wildlife to the area.
- Water in the main body of the lake is significantly cleaner since the reedbed was created, with a 55.3% reduction in total nitrogen, a 36.8% reduction in ammonia and a 68.7% reduction in nitrate concentrations.

How has it helped people?

- The ornamental lake is cleaner, safer and more attractive to look at.
- A number of local household misconnections have been fixed.

Partnership organisations

Thames21, London Borough of Enfield, Environment Agency, Thames Water, Friends of Grovelands Park



AFTER – This new reedbed is helping to increase oxygen and break down pollutants in Grovelands Park.



AFTER – This new wetland can now act as a storage for water and is helping to improve water quality.



Nearest Station: Winchmore Hill