

WELCOME



What is Thames21?

Thames21 is an environmental charity working with people all across London to make waterways better.

Litter is a major problem in the urban landscape and once it is in the water, there is no statutory responsibility to remove it. Thames21 has been cleaning waterways with volunteers since 1994. We engage approximately 9,000 people each year at over 500 events. We are growing but there is still so much to do!

London's waterways are amazing!

At their best, the rivers and canals of greater London are scenic thoroughfares that help us move freely through the city. They provide homes for wildlife and plants, give us glimpses of the past and are places to renew physical and mental strength. At worst, litter and poor maintenance can turn our valuable waterway spaces into areas of neglect, where no one wants to be.

Thames21 believes that waterways provide a powerful focus for community action. By working with volunteers to clean up their local stretches of water, we feel it is possible to turn an under-utilised area into a place of pride and improve the natural environment at the same time. With local authorities relying more and more on the efforts of volunteers to care for and maintain shared spaces, the work of Thames21 to help people take their love of waterways and turn it into action has never been more important. We need people like you to help us with our task.

Why has Thames21 created a training programme for volunteers?

Many people want to do more for their local stretch of water but don't know where to start. Working in and around water is different from land-based conservation and sorting out how to do a water-based activity safely, effectively and enjoyably can seem daunting. Our essential course, **Leading a Waterway Cleanup** contains everything you need to know about how to plan and run a successful cleanup event.

This 2-day course is for people interested in learning more about waterways, why they are important and how to mobilise volunteers. There is no obligation to actually plan and run events once a person has completed the course.

Many people take it just for the learning experience. Others do progress on to help Thames21's Project Officers with events and/or run their own events independently with our support. Our trainees have engaged in some exciting work!

Plan and run a safe, effective and fun event



Trainees at Day 1 of Leading a Waterway Cleanup



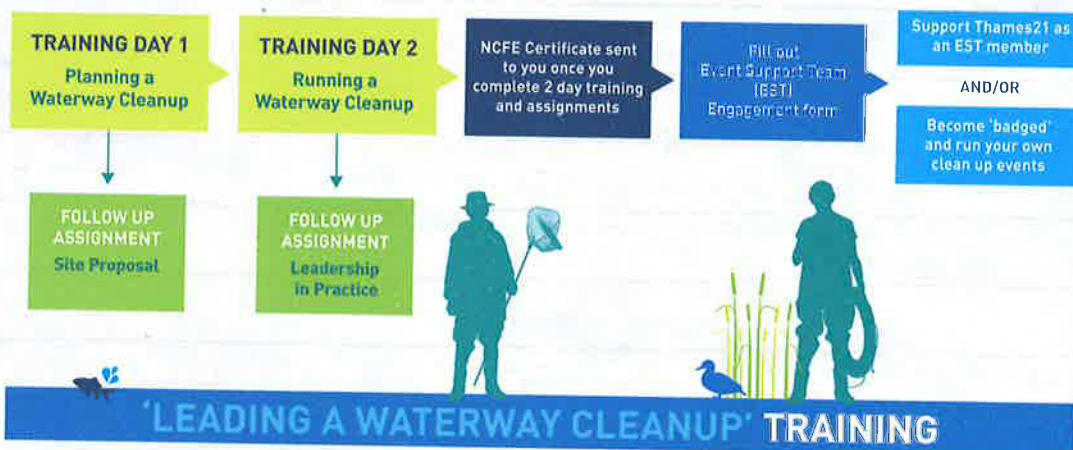
Trainees who have completed the course, leading their own cleanup event

TRAINING PATHWAY



Two day-long sessions are combined with assessments you complete on your own and practical volunteering to help you get the best learning experience. The Training Pathway diagram below shows you how you will progress through the course and what options you have available should you wish to continue being involved with Thames21 and our work.

GETTING INVOLVED WITH THAMES21: TRAINING PATHWAY



'LEADING A WATERWAY CLEANUP' TRAINING

After completing Day 2 of the course, you can register to become one of Thames21's Event Support Team (EST) members. As a member of the EST, you work closely with Thames21 Project Officers and help them deliver volunteer events across London to a range of different groups. One week you may be supporting a large group of corporate workers cleaning up the Thames foreshore, the next week you might find yourself with a small community group on a London canal.

And if you are interested in leading your own cleanup events, you can become one of our Badged Group Leaders. To become Badged, you work with the Thames21 Training Officer to help you plan your first event. The Training Officer will attend your first event as well, providing support and feedback along the way. Being Badged means you are covered under Thames21's public liability insurance, which means we can loan you kit and publicise your events on our website and other media outlets.

Cleanup events are just the start. We want to help you understand other issues affecting waterways so you can look after the health of your stretch more broadly. In addition to the LaWCU course, we run courses on water quality testing, litter surveying and invasive non-native species monitoring. We are also developing more modules to complement your core training with us.

ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION



Thames21 has been approved as an Investing in Quality Centre by the **ncfe**, the further education accrediting organisation, to give formal recognition for our courses.

To gain an ncf certificate of achievement, participants must attend both days of the Leading a Waterway Cleanup course and complete the accompanying assessments, which are outlined below:

Assessment 1: Site & Activity Proposal. After Day 1 of the course, you will complete your own site and activity proposal, outlining an event that you would lead. This is a theoretical activity – you can choose a site you are actually hoping to work on or pick a site you are unfamiliar with and research it. See Page 11 for more information about this assessment.

Assessment 2: Leadership in Practice. After Day 2, you can either observe and evaluate the leadership during a cleanup event you attend, or evaluate yourself leading your own event. Most trainees attend one of the many volunteer events offered by Thames21 and complete this assessment evaluating the Project Officer leading on that day. Some trainees attend events with other organisations they are involved with such as Canal & River Trust and London Wildlife Trust, and observe those leaders to complete the assessment.

What impact did this have on the individuals, the group and/or the event itself?	
What did the leader do at the end of the event?	(Give at least one example and talk about the impact it had)
What impact did this have on the individuals, the group and/or the event itself?	

From the same event, choose a specific example of leadership at the event. Your reflection should be on this example in a bit more detail. Your reflection should include:

- A suitable example of leadership which re
- Reflection with evaluation about this exa
- A suggestion for development/improvement appropriate and achievable (e.g. 'next briefing at the start of the event')

Specific example of leadership at the event.	
Why did you pick this example?	
Reflection and evaluation of your example.	
Suggestion/s for development.	

THAMES21 TRAINING

THAMES21

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Leadership in Practice

For this assessment and to complete the course you will need to either:

a) Describe a Thames21 event that you attended and observed; evaluate the effectiveness of the leadership on that day.

OR

b) Assist in leading/supporting an event with a group and evaluate the effectiveness of your own contribution.

Use the form below to present your evaluation. It is important that you not only give examples but talk about the impact those examples had on individuals, the group, the event itself, etc.

Your Name:	
Event Date:	
Event Location:	
Main activities:	
How did the leader identify themselves as a leader?	(Give as many examples as you can think of)
What did the leader do at the start of the event?	(Give at least one example and talk about the impact it had)
What impact did this have on the individuals, the group and/or the event itself?	
What did the leader do during the event?	(Give at least one example and talk about the impact it had)

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