

Like green space?

Got a smart phone?



Become a Natural Flood Management citizen scientist

Discover how woody debris dams work with nature to help wildlife and people in your local area.

Your photos can play a key role in our work to reducing flooding.



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What is it about?

Flooding is an increasing problem in urban and rural areas. Slowing the Flow (also known as Natural Flood Management) is an innovative approach that is being trialled across the country. The beauty is in the simplicity and how it works with nature. It has the potential to:

- improve the natural landscape's ability to store water
- slow flood waters
- create new wildlife habitat
- complement traditional engineered solutions.



A tree trunk flow diverter

Source: Stroud DC

Thames21 have been working with partners and volunteers to install tree trunk flow diverters and leaky dams in:

- Trent Park, Enfield—Salmons Brook
- Bentley Priory and Stanmore Country Park, Harrow—River Brent headwaters
- Bedfords Park, Havering—Rise Park Stream
- Park Woods, Hillingdon—River Pinn



Leaky dam created to slow the flow

Source: Gloucestershire Wildlife

Citizen Scientists are playing an essential role in monitoring these flow diverters and dams. Read on to get involved.

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Storing water and increasing wildlife habitats in freshwater ponds

Source: NFM Network Scotland

How to get involved

Anyone can be a natural flood management citizen scientist. You can commit as much or as little time as you like to contribute to the record of how the leaky dams and flow diverters are functioning.

Set up your smartphone Slow Flow App

- 1) Sign up to access the **Slow Flow app** on Cartographer here: <https://help.cartographer.io/mobile-access/>
- 2) Click the '**Get the Mobile App**' button to be set up as a Slow Flow Catcher surveyor.

Spotting

Visit any of the public parks where NFM work has been taking place and follow these map to find the dams and flow diverters.

Map for Bedfords Park, Havering

[Map for Bentley Priory and Stanmore Country Park, Harrow](#)

[Map for Park Woods, Hillingdon](#)

[Map for Trent Park, Enfield](#)

Most of them are labelled with a photo position mark like the one pictured here.



Collecting the data

Monitoring

Complete a Slow Flow Survey on the Cartographer app for each feature you find.

We need to know how these features work in all weather conditions embrace the British weather in all it's forms!

Supporting information

To ensure the survey's are completed accurately read the:

- FAQ's for the Slow Flow Catcher Survey on Cartographer.—key concepts and terminology glossary

For further information you can check out:

- Introduction to NFM and types of features
- Community-based NFM—terminology and flood hydrograph diagram

For more information about Thames21's NFM projects

thames21.org.uk/natural-flood-management/

Get in touch to find out more:

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