



## **Create four ponds**

*Provide the funding to enable us to create four ponds at Heal Somerset*

We would like to create four new ponds on the Heal Somerset site.

This funding would enable us to do the planning for, and creation of, the ponds, which will fill naturally as they are on a clay subsoil which is very effective at retaining water.

We have an existing relationship with a local groundwork contractor who has previously done work at our site and also completed pond creation projects for one of our neighbours.

We would simply create the ponds. Mounting evidence shows that plants and animals arrive rapidly, with water bugs and beetles often flying in within hours, especially in the summer months. Most other insect families, such as mayflies, caddis flies, dragonflies, and some annual water plants, can become established within the first summer. Flatworms, snails and submerged plants will usually arrive within a few years. According to the Freshwater Habitats Trust, within two or three years after a clean water pond is made, it can be as rich as a 50-year-old pond, entirely by natural colonisation.

### **Impact**

Pond restoration will increase abundance and diversity of wildlife, which will increase people's engagement and enjoyment with the space.

### **Legacy**

Heal staff and volunteers will regularly monitor and ensure maintenance of the ponds.