

Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve – Member’s permit conditions

Please read and agree to these conditions before completing your application form

This Reserve is designated as a Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation and a Local Nature Reserve. It performs an important function as a wildlife refuge because of the relative lack of disturbance as a result of controlled public access. Access to the Protected Area is only permitted to members of the ‘Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve’ scheme and other invited guests. Throughout the wider area of the nature reserve, access is provided by public rights of way, as indicated in the accompanying map.

Through the ‘Friends Scheme’ we provide opportunities for educational and recreational bird watching and general nature study. The purpose of these Conditions is to ensure that the nature conservation integrity and refuge qualities of the Reserve are not compromised by unsympathetic access.

As a Member of the Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve you must comply with the conditions set out below when visiting the Reserve. Failure to comply with these conditions may make it necessary for us to remove offenders from the Reserve and cancel their membership. Please let us know of any cases in which these conditions are infringed by others.

1. All persons entering the Protected Area of the Reserve must be in possession of a valid ‘Friends of Crossness Nature Reserve’ Member’s Permit, or have specific authorisation from Thames Water.
2. Except where public footpaths cross them, there is no general access to the grazing land. Please stay on the paths.
3. The Reserve is accessed on foot or bicycle (no vehicles) via public footpaths as indicated in the accompanying map. There is NO access via Crossness Sewage Treatment Works.
4. Access to the Protected Area is permitted all year from dawn to dusk, except when closed for one day per year as published. We reserve the right to close all, or sections, of the Protected Area at any time for any reason.
5. Permit holders under the age of 16 years must be accompanied by a permit holder aged 16 years or over, who will be responsible for their conduct.
6. Access to the Protected Area of the reserve is gained via a security key code panel on the entrance gate. Security codes on this gate will be changed regularly, however all members will be notified in advance of such changes. Please ensure that all gates are kept closed and locked at all times. It is forbidden for members to pass on security code details to non-members of the Friends Scheme or allow entrance to non-members of the scheme.
7. Crossness Nature Reserve is part of the Constant Effort Sites (CES) scheme (a national standardised ringing program) which involves obtaining valuable scientific data on changes in bird population size, changes in breeding success and adult survival rates. As part of this scheme, the Dartford Ringing Group, with the permission of Thames Water, carry out licensed ringing activities in the Protected Area; visitors will be notified of their presence on site by way of signs
8. Permits shall be produced for inspection at any time when requested by our Nature Reserve Manager, Thames Water staff or other Friends scheme members. Permits are not transferable.
9. Whilst on the Reserve you must comply with all directional signage and any directions and instructions given by our Nature Reserve Manager or other Thames Water staff relating to our land, buildings and property.
10. Please notify us of any change of address or new e-mail address (for correspondence – newsletter, updated security codes etc).
11. We reserve the right to refuse admission to any Member or withdraw membership for any reason, including non-compliance with the Scheme Conditions.
12. Except in respect of our own negligence, we will not be liable for any loss, damage or injury to members or their property.
13. All persons entering the Reserve must abide by the conditions with particular respect to the following: -
 - Leaving litter or other items that may contaminate the Reserve.
 - Interference with any apparatus, wildlife or grazing animals.
 - No dogs or other animals within the Protected Area of the Reserve (other than guide dogs).
 - Entering the water for any purpose.
 - Fishing is not permitted.
 - Entering upon any part of the Reserve other than by the public and permissive paths or by other means of access provided and signposted.
 - The lighting of any fire.
 - Any other activity inconsistent with the quiet enjoyment of the nature reserve and the protection of its wildlife interest.

For further information contact: Karen Sutton (Nature Reserve Manager), Thames Water, Crossness Nature Reserve, Crossness Sewage Treatment Works, Bazalgette Way, Abbey Wood, London, SE2 9AQ. Telephone: 07747 643958. E-mail: karen.sutton@thameswater.co.uk.