

River Roding Restoration

Lead Partner

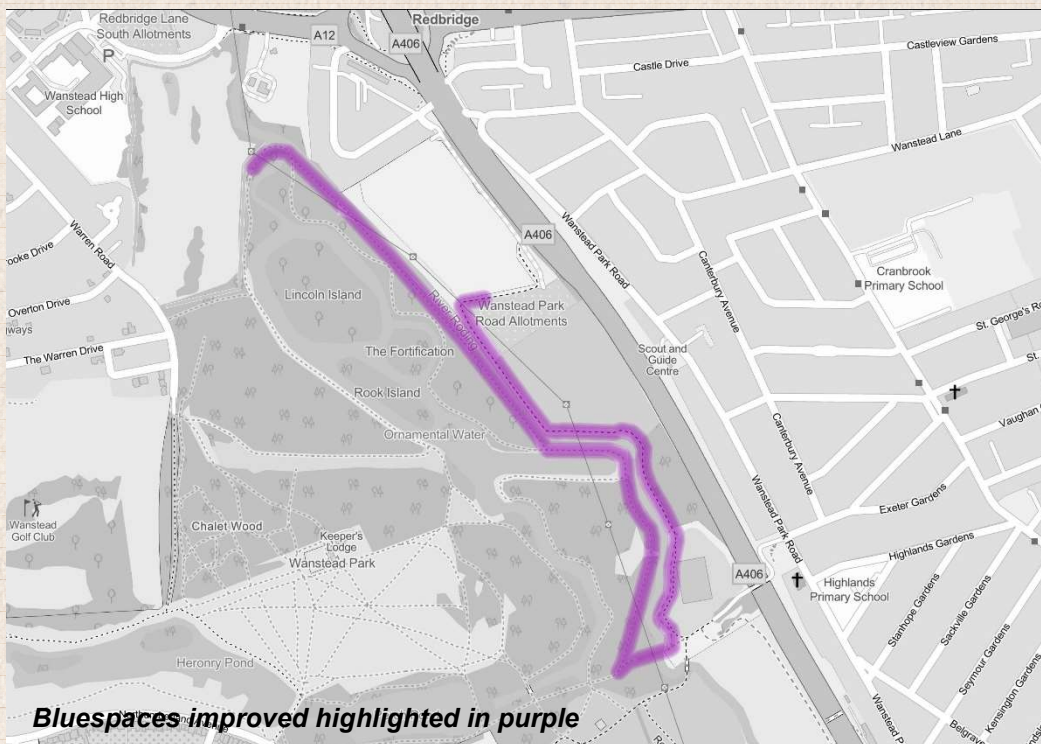
Thames 21



Location	Bluespaces Improved	Delivery Year	Project Value
Wanstead Park, London	2.2km	2021	£36,000

Project Overview

Through this restoration project, 2.2km of publicly accessible water environment at the River Roding in East London has been improved. The project had two main aims, those were, to carry out habitat improvement and to improve access from Wanstead Park. Mismanagement of natural resources, including our freshwater systems, has resulted in significant destruction and loss of natural ecosystems across the globe, therefore Thames 21 has been working to develop and implement freshwater habitat improvements on the River Roding bordering Wanstead Park, London. Small trees have also been fitted along the river to help aid with areas of refuge for aquatic plants and to help improve fish spawning habitat.



Partnership Information

Thames 21 is the voice for London's waterways, working with communities to improve rivers and canals for people and wildlife. They provide volunteers to clean and green London's 400-mile network of waterways. The aim is to transform neglected waterways so that they are more useable and enjoyable by everyone. This is an independent charity and is funded by various trusts, companies, and public funding.

Project Achievements

Wildlife and biodiversity

- A series of large wood deflectors have been installed into the river channel and bed.
- To avoid trees being dislodged during high flow – they have been hinged into the channel bank.
- Additional fish refuges and spawning habitats have been added in the form of marginal trees.
- An increase in wood debris to assist the growth of aquatic vegetation.

Water quality

- An improvement in the rivers state and function helping to naturalise the site – removal of rubbish and debris.
- An improvement of the state and function of the water, including visual appearance, litter, and odour.

Additional & Secondary Benefits

- The improvements to Bluespaces have enhanced the wildlife at the river.
- This project has contributed towards a larger project linked to Wanstead Park (Wanstead Park Restoration Programme) and has caught the attention of partners and local stakeholders.
- The project has created a lasting partnership with local volunteers who will continue to help maintain the area to drive improvement.

Testimonials

“Funding from Essex and Suffolk Water has allowed us to engage the local community with improving habitat on a significant stretch of the River Roding adjacent to Wanstead Park. This project has also succeeded in bringing together multiple partners and helped created some real momentum in the catchment with discussions about potential linked project already underway. Thank you for your support!”

Will Oliver, Catchment Partnership Development Officer, Thames21



Little egret captured on camera trails installed on areas of improvement



Local volunteers clearing rubbish from the River Roding.

