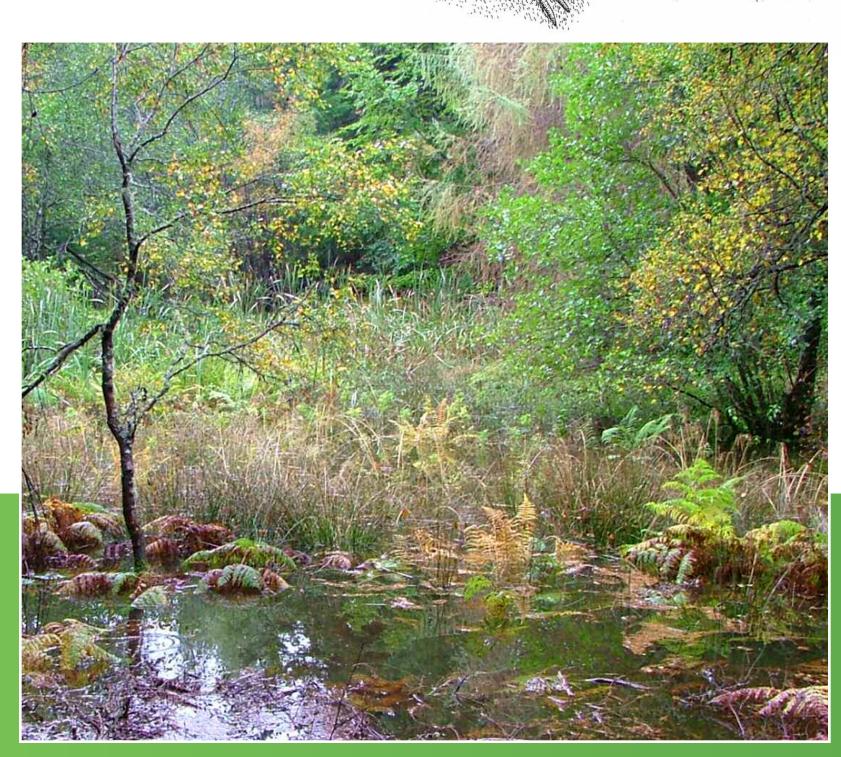
Woods and Water Coille agus Uisge

This pond area in the heart of Evanton
Wood is an oasis for water-loving
plants and animals all year round. The
pond is fed by the Allt Cùl na Greine
('stream at the back of the
sun') also known as
the Blayrach Burn.



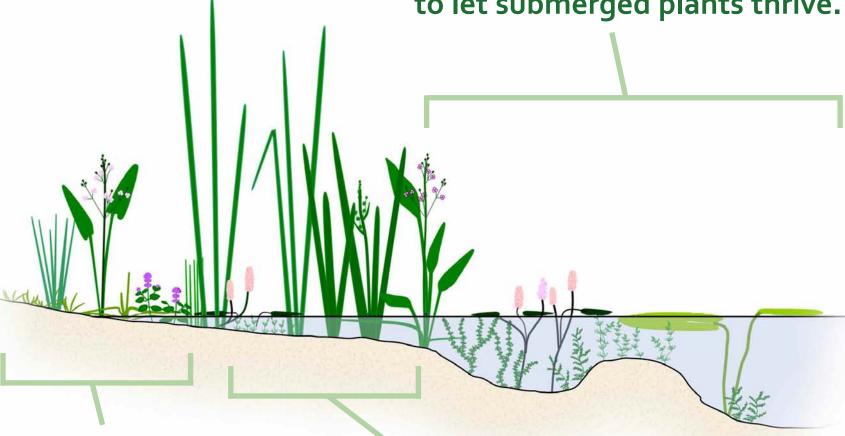


Biolaireach in Gaelic means 'rich in water-cresses'. A member of the Veronica family, brooklime, limewort or cow grass grows well in this stream. This native plant provides sites for egg-laying, perching and roosting for adult dragonfly - their larvae use the stems to climb out of the water.

DEEP WATER 30cm+

Too deep for most emergent plants to root.

Most animals live amonst the submerged plants,
so it's important that the water is clean enough
to let submerged plants thrive.



THE SHALLOWS o-10cm

This is the richest part of the pond. Many animal species are only found here living amongst the low submerged grasses and wetland herbs at the waters edge.

MID-DEPTH 10-30cm

Tall marginal plants (like the reedmace - also known as cat's tail or false bulrush) often dominate here, though submerged and floating plants are happy too.

Things to look out for...

Spring An t-Earrach

- Frogspawn is normally laid in February or March.
- Marginal and underwater plants start to grow.
- On warmer days you might see water beetles daolagan, pond skaters and water boatmen flying to the pond lòn.

Summer An Samhradh

- Damselflies start to emerge: the Large Red comes first in May, followed by the blues.
- Frog tadpoles are leaving the pond; adult frogs *losgann* will be lurking in the cool water
- Pipistrelle bats *laltag* may be hunting overhead
- Ponds occasionally dry out

Autumn Am Foghar

 Smaller animals have finished egg-laying; tiny larvae are getting ready for winter



- Frog and newt tadpoles may over-winter
- Plants begin to die back

Winter Am Geamhradh

- Larvae of mayflies, dragonflies, damselflies, caddis flies and water beetles all over-winter here even if the water freezes.
- Most plants won't be growing.
- Bats will be hibernating.



Pond care:

The combination of underwater plants and light will keep the pond well oxygenated. If it freezes, holes in the ice will give birds (eoin) and deer (fiadh)

somewhere to drink. Overwintering frogs are happy under the ice as long as there is some oxygen in the water. Long, rain-free summers can cause the pond to dry out, but if looked after the vegetation will still be home to many woodland and wetland creatures.



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