

P48 Community engagement/volunteer days on Tyne tributaries

Theme(s): B: Improve people's understanding of rivers, catchments, weather extremes and climate change. Increase community participation in monitoring change and taking action to improve and protect water environments.

Goal(s): B3: Engage widely to educate about river issues and encourage positive behavioural change.

Communities will be encouraged to take part in volunteer days to help clear problem sites and learn about the importance of keeping their local watercourses healthy. The sessions to focus on:

- the importance of keeping water clean and tidy
- raising ownership and awareness
- what the community can do about fly tipping
- what not to put down drains
- wildlife awareness (what to look out for, habitat creation to encourage mammals, amphibians and invertebrates, otter holts, habitat mosaic, reed beds, mixes of scrub and trees, grassland, different types of habitat to encourage biodiversity).

Update as at April 2013: A group of organisations met in March, and will meet again in April 2013, to explore the possibility of putting together a bid for funding from a number of sources to deliver a programme of awareness raising and engagement projects targeted at improving understanding and protection of the rivers in the Tyne catchment.

Project Status:	Proposed
Potential Deliverer(s):	Groundwork North East
Estimated Timeframe:	1 to 5 years
Estimated Project Cost:	£25,000 to £50,000
Potential Funding Source(s):	Awards for All, Northumbrian Water, Landfill Trusts, Community Foundation