The permit entitles you to visit restricted areas and to visit outside public opening hours to observe and enjoy the wildlife found at Walthamstow Wetlands. Spaces are limited and the cost is £10 for the year which goes towards bird ringing activities at the reserve.

**Please only apply if you fit the following criteria:**

* Visiting for bird or wildlife watching
* Will visit at least once a fortnight

This is to ensure people who visit the reserve regularly enjoy the limited permits available to watch wildlife. We encourage people from all backgrounds and communities to apply. If you do not meet these criteria or are unsuccessful, you are welcome to visit during our regular opening hours.

***Please note: If you are found to be participating in activities outside of these agreed parameters, your permit will be revoked. You may be asked to show proof of your permit, so please always carry it with you when on-site.***

For wildlife monitoring purposes, please notify one of the reserve staff if you find anything of ecological interest to add to our records. We thank you for your contribution.

This permit will entitle you access to the reservoirs at the following times:

**OPENING TIMES FOR 2025/26**

* 1st June – 27th July: 7am - 10pm
* 28th July – 21st Sept: 7am - 9pm
* 22nd Sept - 19th October: 7am – 7.30pm
* 20th October – 1st March: 8am - 5pm
* 2nd March – 3rd May: 7am – 7.30pm
* 4th May - 31st May: 7am – 10pm

*Closed: Christmas Day and Boxing Day, and reduced to visitor centre hours on New Year’s Day*

Please note that the car park on-site is closed at 4pm 1st October to 31st March and 5pm from 1st April to 30th September.

This permit entitles the holder to access Walthamstow Wetlands ONLY and will run from 01/06/2025 to 31/05/2026. Please **do not** apply if you hold a current Thames Water birdwatching permit. For any inquiries please contact: [wawbirdpermits@wildlondon.org.uk](mailto:wawbirdpermits@wildlondon.org.uk)

All permit applications to be submitted by 07/05/2025. Successful applicants will be notified by 21/05/2025. All permits must be collected from the reception at Walthamstow Wetlands by 01/07/2025. Any permits that have not been collected by this date will be re-allocated to those on the waiting list.

If successful, you will need to submit a passport-sized photo for your permit and Proof of I.D. will be required to collect it.

All permit holders must abide by the Thames Water Conditions and Regulations found at the end of this document.

Please complete the below application form and email it to [wawbirdpermits@wildlondon.org.uk](mailto:wawbirdpermits@wildlondon.org.uk) or hand in a printed copy to the reception at the Engine House for consideration.

We promise to protect your personal data, per our Privacy Policy, which can be found at: [www.wildlondon.org.uk/privacy-policy](http://www.wildlondon.org.uk/privacy-policy)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name:** |  | **Address:** |  |
| **Date of Birth:** |  | **Post Code:** |  |
| **Email:** |  | **Mobile:** |  |

Thank you for submitting this application. We will be in contact with all successful applicants by21st May 2025. **If you are unsuccessful, you will not be contacted.**

**THAMES WATER TERMS & CONDITIONS**

**The Company will take action against anyone who fails to comply with these regulations:**

1. Permit holders are expected to be considerate and courteous while on the Company’s property.
2. Offenders may be removed from the site, future access may be denied, and if appropriate they will be prosecuted.
3. It is in the best interests of all users that these regulations are observed. If you see others misbehaving, please help to preserve the amenity by notifying the Thames Water staff as soon as possible - they can be reached on 07747 641179.
4. The main function of these reservoirs is for the storage of water for public supply. Birdwatchers should always bear this in mind and use common sense.
5. The Company will not be liable for any loss, damage or injury to permit holders or their property.
6. Entry onto the Company’s property by any persons shall be (except as stated) at their own risk.
7. All persons at any time while on the Company’s property must comply with all directions and instructions given by the Company’s staff relating to the Company’s land, buildings and property.
8. Instructions on notices must be observed

**GENERAL REGULATIONS**

1. All regulations are subject to review by the Company - changes or additions will be posted at the Gatehouse.
2. The holder of a permit will be permitted by the Company, for the duration of the permit, to use the facilities at such reservoirs as the Company may from time to time decide. The Company reserves the right to restrict or prohibit recreational activities at any time at its discretion.
3. No one may enter the site without first purchasing the correct permit (from the Wetlands Reception). Permits must be produced for inspection at any time on demand by any authorised representative of the Walthamstow Wetlands team, including Wildlife Trust Staff and Thames Water security personnel. **Please note that permits are not transferable.**
4. Permit holders under the age of 16 years must be accompanied by a permit holder aged 18 years or over, who will be responsible for their conduct. No juveniles under the age of 8 years will be admitted.
5. The only entry and exit point for recreational purposes is the Ferry Lane Gate.
6. All litter should be taken home. Litter is unsightly and can kill and injure wild animals.

**The following are prohibited on the Company’s property:**

1. Pollution or contamination of the reservoirs or land.
2. Interference with, or damage to, any buildings, machinery or apparatus, trees, plants, wildlife, grazing animals and the digging or removal of soil, clay or sand.
3. Dogs or other animals brought in by visitors.
4. Bathing or standing in the water for any purpose.
5. The lighting of any fire.
6. Entering upon any parts of the land adjoining the reservoirs, rivers etc, other than by the paths or other means of access provided.
7. Urinating/defecating on company property except in the toilet facilities provided.