

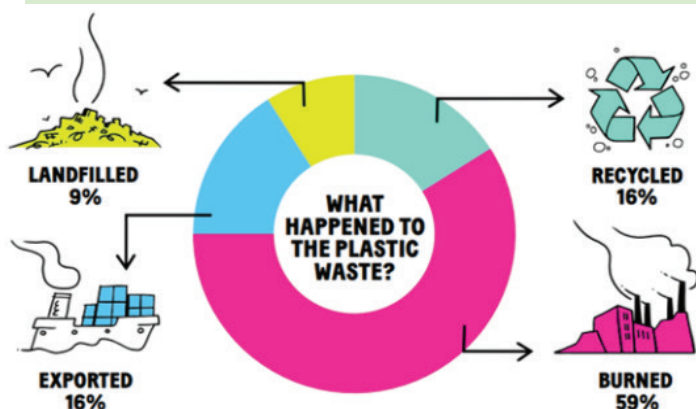
Target 25 Freshwater Environments:

Continuing our series focusing on a range of declining species and threatened habitats.

In Haxby and Wigginton we are lucky to have village ponds and the nearby River Foss to enjoy. Freshwater habitats are a priority for nature conservation as they host thousands of species, including some highly specialised plants and animals. Globally, freshwater habitats account for less than 0.01% of the world's surface yet support more than 100,000 species. Freshwater habitats are an integral part of the environment and are being impacted due to climate change through variations in rainfall, increased temperatures and changes to the physical habitat.

How can we help?

- take part in river cleans and litter picks
- reduce the amount of water we use
- not polluting the natural environment by thinking about the cleaning products and garden chemicals we use
- create natural ponds in our garden
- make personal lifestyle changes to reduce our carbon footprint
- encourage governments and companies to make green and ethical decisions



Did you know?

Synthetic clothes (made from polyester and acrylic) shed millions of tiny plastic strands called microfibers during washing, wearing and drying. These plastic particles pass through wastewater systems into rivers and oceans, making textiles a major source of global microplastic pollution.

Back in March, we were invited to take part in a major UK wide investigation into plastic waste, asking participants to track and tally every piece of plastic packaging thrown away in one week. The results are in and make for challenging reading.

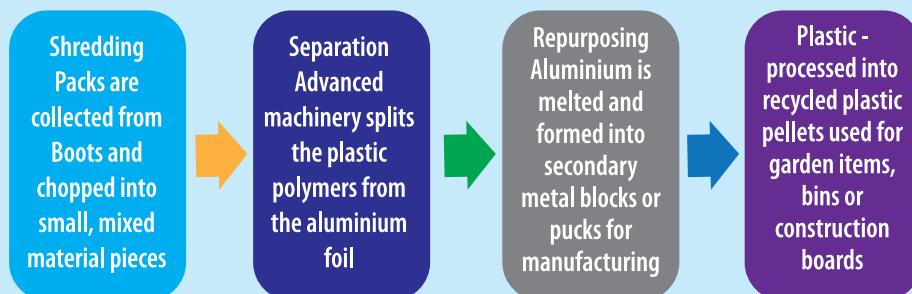
Dealing with the amount of plastic waste we create is problematic and so every effort we can make to reduce the amount of plastic we use is a step in the right direction. Simple switches like swapping cling film for foil, putting leftovers into recycled lidded containers instead of new tubs or food bags, buying refills for soap dispensers and toiletries, buying loose fruit and vegetables rather than packaged.

Simply put, use less plastic!

More information can be found at bigplasticcount.com

What a lot of Blister Packs!

Your response to our request for empty blister packs to recycle has been so fantastic, that almost every week Tony and I can be seen making our way to Boots at Monks Cross or Coney Street carrying several bags full of them. (It's a good job they are not heavy!) But what happens to the Blister Packs after they have been deposited in the box at Boots?



We are currently pursuing avenues to see if there could be a recycling box locally, but in the meantime keep the Blister Packs coming! Cathy Knapp

