

<b>Assessment Date</b>	August 2021	<b>Review Date</b> (To be within 24 Months)	August 2023
<b>Work Area</b>	<b>Parkland With Significant Water Bodies</b>		
<b>Reason for Assessment (Tick appropriate boxes)</b>			
Initial Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Periodic Review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Change of Work Process	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change of Personnel	<input type="checkbox"/>
Relocation	<input type="checkbox"/>	After an Accident / Incident	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Change of Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Abnormal Activity	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Brief Description of Assessment:</b>			
<b>Parks Containing Large Lakes</b>			
Parks / Parkland in The Parks Trust Estate in which a significant water body is located.			
<b>Assessor(s):</b>			
Michael Thomas (Health & Safety Manager)			

**Hazard** = Something with the potential to cause harm.

**Risk** = The likelihood of a hazard causing harm & its associated severity.

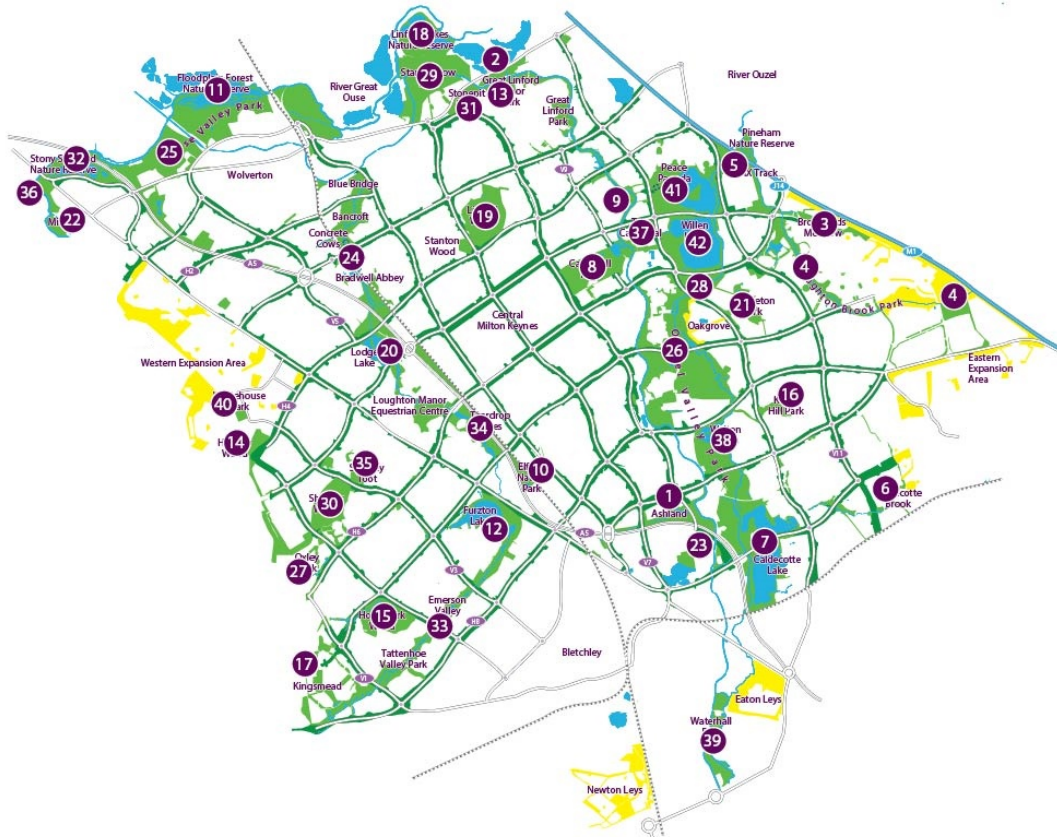
**'Concentrate on the significant, ignore the trivial'**

## Part 1 – Hazard Identification

1. General Description of the Work Area	Associated Hazards
<p>Parkland areas where the most significant feature is a water body. Although the generic hazards associated with water are the same across all areas, there may be individual characteristics associated with a particular park. These are indicated in Section 1, Part 3 (Method Statement).</p> <p>Note: Other areas of park may well contain water in one of a number of different forms. These are covered by one of the other site risk assessments. For example, Willen Lake South.</p> <p>In general Parks will include many similar hazards. Some parks may have individual hazards, for example particular art installations, grazing cattle, bridges, electrical boxes etc.</p> <p>Areas with significant water bodies include;</p> <p>Ashland Caldecotte Lake North &amp; South Furzton Lake Loughton Valley Parks (Lodge Lake, Teardrop Lakes) Magna Park Walton Lake Willen Lake North Wolverton Mill</p>	<p>Water [Drowning, Leptospirosis, Blue-Green Algae, Weirs &amp; / or flood control structures]</p> <p>Slips, Trips &amp; Falls</p> <p>Impact [Vehicles]</p> <p>Weather [Heat, Cold]</p> <p>Biological</p> <p>Litter</p> <p>Public Art Installations</p> <p>Grazing Animals</p>

## 2. Plant, Equipment and Vehicles in or adjacent to the work area

## Associated Hazards



- 1. Ashland Lakes
- 7. Caldecotte Lakes North & South
- 12. Furzton Lake
- 20. Lodge Lake
- 34. Teardrop Lakes
- 38. Walton Lake
- 41. Willen Lake North

Note: 11. Floodplain Forest & 32. Stony Stratford Nature Reserve are included as part of Site Risk Assessment SL-101

<b>3. METHOD STATEMENT</b>  <b>Description of the task / process to be carried out (step-by-step tasks). This section should describe exactly how the work will be done and by whom</b>	<b>Associated Hazards</b>
<p>To report issues to The Parks Trust:</p> <p>Phone: 01908 233600 (Office Hours)            Email: <a href="mailto:info@theparkstrust.com">info@theparkstrust.com</a></p> <p><b><u>GENERAL</u></b></p> <p>Each area of park is assigned to an Area Landscape Manager and / or Landscape Officer who have the overall responsibility for that area.</p> <p>Additionally, each area has a designated Community Ranger who will regularly patrol their areas and be a point of contact for members of the public.</p> <p>Few locations have any accessible public toilets or welfare facilities.</p> <p><b><u>WATER</u></b></p> <p>The Trust’s policy recognises that the most positive way of counteracting drowning is to prevent entry into the water in the first place. There are many possible causes of drowning which form the links in the drowning chain. It is essential to counter these factors and break the link in the chain as soon as possible, preferably before rescue is required.</p> <p>The links are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ignorance, disregard or misjudgement of danger.</li> <li>• Unrestricted access to hazards.</li> <li>• Absence of adequate supervision.</li> <li>• An inability to save yourself or be rescued</li> </ul> <p>With reference to the RoSPA drowning chain, the Trust will seek to break the chain in two places by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing information, guidance and education to help prevent ignorance, disregard or misjudgement of danger being a contributory cause.</li> <li>• Manage its land and assets and collaborate with other parties to consider how individuals may either save themselves or be rescued.</li> </ul> <p>Areas may be liable to rapid rise in height of water due to nature of Milton Keynes flood defences. Several locations have associated control structures owned and operated by Anglian Water. There are likely to be strong currents at these locations.</p> <p>Fishing pegs are provided at several locations and operated via licence agreement with Milton Keynes Angling Association.</p>	

## Key Safety Messages

- Stay out of the water unless taking part in an organised activity. You cannot be sure what is in the water.
- If you end up in water unintentionally, float on your back to survive – cold water shock is a major hazard. Once your body has had a chance to adjust you will be better able to rescue yourself.
- Don't go into the water to rescue pets.
- Stay off of ice – it probably will not support you.

## Individual Park Features

- **Ashlands** ([Website Link](#))

The lakes are located within a flood control system with a dam structure to the eastern side of the park. At times of flooding with raised water levels a dangerous whirlpool can form above the water exit grill at the far end of the eastern rill.

There is a water flow between the 1st and 2nd lakes. Children have been observed using the large flat stones in this area as stepping stones that can become slippery.

Public Art – The Water Serpent.

There is a fountain located in the upper middle pond.

- **Caldecotte Lake North & South** ([Website Link](#))

There is an Anglian Water Control Structure situated on the North Lake. The River Ouzel runs through the park.

A number of commercial water sports activities and voluntary clubs are licenced to operate on the lakes. A pub restaurant and hotel operate adjacent to the North Lake.

Anglian Water own, maintain & operate a flood control structure at the north lake.

The local parish council have exercise equipment located at the south lake. There are also two bird hides located around the south lake.

- **Furzton Lake** ([Website Link](#))

There is a Helicopter Landing Pad at the top north east corner of the park.

Public Art – Triple Star Head. Made from stainless steel.  
Portals. Made from railway sleepers. Situated on island & inaccessible to public.

There is a hotel on land adjacent to the park.

- **Lodge Lake** ([Website Link](#))

Trim trail equipment.

Bird Feeding platform.

Weir structure controlling water flow into brook at northern end.

Public Art – Re3volution. Owned by Loughton Parish Council

- **Teardrop Lakes** ([Website Link](#))

Form part of the flood defences to the tributary of the River Great Ouse running through Milton Keynes. A flood defence structure is situated to the north west of the lakes.

There is a cricket pitch adjacent to the park land which is owned by MK Council and operated by The Grove Independent School.

- **Magna Park** ([What3Words Link](#))

This site is isolated and not overlooked.

- **Walton Lake** ([Website Link](#))

River Ouzel runs through park.

Sheep & cattle may be grazed in fields.

There is a boardwalk over part of the water with a bird hide located at the end.

- **Willen Lake North** ([Website Link](#))

Public Art – Four Faces. Bronze tablets inset into ground. (Labyrinth)  
Souls in Love. Marble (Labyrinth)  
Hiroshima Departed. Granite. (Peace Pagoda)  
Medicine Wheel. Limestone

Peace Pagoda & Plinth.

Anglian Water own, maintain & operate a flood control structure.

- **Wolverton Mill** ([Website Link](#))

A number of small structures associated with role as balancing lake.

Small stream.

Used for grazing cattle and sheep.

## AED Locations

The nearest AED location can be found using an App such as that available from the South Central Ambulance Service called Savealife. (<https://www.scas.nhs.uk/news/campaigns/savealife/>)

## Emergency Access

Location and access information is displayed on Water Safety Information signs located at various points around lakes. Example shown below



## Public Rescue Equipment (PRE)

Most of The Trust's lakes do not have PRE. Where there is PRE, then its location is indicated on water safety signs.

The Trust has removed PRE in a number of locations due to continued vandalism meaning that it cannot be relied upon when needed.

Assessors Signature(s) Michael Thomas (Health & Safety Manager)

ALL Those involved in making the Risk Assessment to sign

## Part 2 - Detailed Assessment of Risks

<b>Hazard.</b> <b>Potential harm and how caused</b> (List all hazards identified in part 1)	<b>Persons likely to be affected</b>	<b>Existing Control Measures.</b> (Describe all existing measures taken to reduce risk)	<b>Risk Rating.</b> <b>S x L</b> (See Table 1) <i>[e.g. 3 x 1 = 3 Low]</i>	<b>Action required to reduce / control risk.</b> (Further improvements that could be made to the control measures. To be agreed with relevant manager & H&S Advisor)	<b>Corrective Action Number</b> (If further control measures required)	<b>Residual Risk Rating</b> (After further actions)
Water [Drowning]	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water Safety Policy TPT-1012</li> <li>Water safety signage</li> <li>Safety Signage checked monthly – recorded in PSS System</li> <li>Swimming, general water play, ice play not permitted and discouraged when known to be taking place</li> <li>Regular communication (via social media, Web site, press etc.) and educational initiatives undertaken to encourage responsible behaviour.</li> <li>Water activity monitored and recorded by Community Rangers.</li> </ul>	3 x 1 = 3 LOW	The Trust will communicate messages about water safety in a variety of different ways.  Where persons are found to be in the water, Community Rangers will explain the associated issues. (Unknown obstacles, cold water shock, health hazards).		
Water [Leptospirosis – Weils Disease]	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swimming &amp; general water play not permitted and discouraged when known to be taking place</li> <li>Communication and educational initiatives undertaken to explain issues</li> </ul>	2 x 1 = 2 LOW	Follow good general hygiene principles. Wash hands after contact with water & before eating, drinking or smoking. Cover any existing cuts / broken skin with waterproof plasters. Wash any new cuts / grazes with soap & running water as soon as possible. Seek medical advice (flu-like illness, persistent & severe headache leading to vomiting & muscle pain).		
Water [Blue-Green Algae]	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swimming &amp; general water play not permitted and discouraged when known to be taking place</li> <li>Communication and educational initiatives undertaken to explain issues</li> <li>Dogs should be kept out of affected water</li> </ul>	2 x 1 = 2 LOW	Follow good general hygiene principles. Wash hands after contact with water & before eating, drinking or smoking. Cover any existing cuts / broken skin with waterproof plasters. Seek medical advice particularly if water ingested (headaches, nausea, fever, sore throat, dizziness, stomach cramps, diarrhea, abdominal pain, vomiting, muscle aches, mouth ulcers, and blistering of the lips).		

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				Can be fatal to dogs. Symptoms can include Diarrhea or vomiting, Drooling & Neurologic signs such as: Weakness. Disorientation/confusion. Collapse/unconsciousness. Seizures. Breathing difficulties.		
Slips, Trips & Falls	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sites patrolled on a regular basis by staff and volunteers.</li> <li>Leisure route paths, bridges, boardwalks are on a 6-monthly recorded, checking regime.</li> <li>Any manhole covers which are seen with a visual problem will be reported to the service owner or MKC if owner not easily identified</li> </ul>	2 x 2 = 4 <b>MEDIUM</b>	Continuing annual program of leisure route resurfacing. Reported issues assessed and action taken as needed. Park visitors should wear sensible footwear and be aware that many natural trip hazards may exist within the park land.		
Impact [Vehicles]	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Car parks well laid out</li> <li>Restricted access for vehicles into parks</li> <li>Authorised vehicles restricted to speed of 10mph, use of hazard lights and flashing beacon (if fitted)</li> </ul>	2 x 1 = 2 <b>LOW</b>	Signs to be placed in advance of any works in progress.		
Adverse Weather [Rain, Wind, Heat, Cold]	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trust staff make checks after high winds for damaged trees &amp; debris.</li> <li>Appropriate warnings issued via web site &amp; / or social media.</li> </ul>	2 x 2 = 4 <b>MEDIUM</b>	Public should remain vigilant at times of heavy rainfall. Public advised to dress appropriately for weather conditions.		
Biological [Animal Waste, Drugs Paraphernalia, Sharps, Human Body Fluids / Waste]	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular patrols of areas by Community Rangers, other staff &amp; volunteers.</li> <li>Regular cleansing of areas by The Trust or their contractors.</li> <li>Licensed commercial dog walkers</li> </ul>	2 x 1 = 2 <b>LOW</b>	Parish / Local councils provide dog waste bins. Public should be vigilant and avoid any such hazards. Report immediate threats to the police and of maintenance issues to The Trust.		



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Litter	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Litter cleansed to prescribed regime by contractors and by event organizers as a requirement of their licenses.</li> <li>Sites visited regularly by volunteers and staff who report on cleanliness.</li> <li>Arrangements in place (via contractors) for prompt removal of dangerous fly-tipped material.</li> </ul>	2 x 1 = 2 LOW			
Public Art Installations	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Art structures are inspected as part of 6 monthly Safety &amp; Visual checks</li> </ul>	2 x 1 = 2 LOW			
Activities of Other Park Users [Events, Aggressive Behaviour / Animals, Anti-Social Activity]	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular patrols of areas by Community Rangers, other staff &amp; volunteers.</li> <li>Events licensed &amp; separately risk assessed.</li> <li>Known anti-social behaviour reported to police.</li> <li>Liaison with appropriate agencies to share information.</li> </ul>	2 x 1 = 2 LOW	Public advised to avoid confrontation and report anti-social behavior directly to police.		
Landscape Operations	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All work planned.</li> <li>On site assessments to be completed.</li> <li>Signs to be placed giving warning of operations.</li> <li>Contractors monitored by The Trust Landscape Officers.</li> </ul>	2 x 1 = 2 LOW			
Grazing Animals	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Farming policy &amp; risk assessments</li> <li>Grazing animals managed by farming partner.</li> </ul>	3 x 1 = 3 LOW			

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boundary fences inspected &amp; Maintained</li> </ul>				
Trees [Tree health, wind damage etc.]	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tree Safety Policy</li> <li>All trees inspected at frequency dependant on species / age / location / health</li> </ul>	3 x 1 = 3 LOW	Public advised to be vigilant and to take care in adverse weather		
Play Areas / Trim Trails	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspected annually by RoSPA</li> <li>Inspected weekly &amp; monthly by The Trusts qualified play area manager</li> <li>Play Area Policy TPT-1024</li> </ul>	2 x 1 = 2 LOW	Maintenance to be carried out at time of defect discovery if possible or otherwise made safe until repair can be affected		
Vermin	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring &amp; high levels investigated.</li> <li>Cleansing contracts in place.</li> <li>Vermin control measures utilised as appropriate.</li> </ul>	2 x 1 = 2 LOW	Advice given regarding waterfowl feeding via website & Community Rangers.		
Dogs [Uncontrolled, Excitable]	Park Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Ranger Patrols</li> <li>Licenced commercial dog walkers</li> </ul>	2 x 1 = 2 LOW	The Trusts code of conduct for dog walkers available from website		

## Part 2 - Detailed Assessment of Risks

**Table 1. Risk Rating**

Risk rating = Severity x Likelihood

Risk Assessment		Severity (S) [Severity] & [Extent]		
		Slightly Harmful [Minor injury / illness, first aid treatment, minor equipment damage] [Affecting only one person] (1)	Harmful [Serious injury / illness, hospitalisation, equipment damage] (2)	Extremely Harmful [Fatality, loss of limb, permanent disability, equipment destroyed] [Several persons affected] (3)
Likelihood (L) [Exposure to Hazard] [Occurrence of Hazard] [Possibility of Avoidance]	Very Unlikely (1) [Minimal interaction] [Remote possibility] [Easily avoidable]	Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)
	Unlikely (2) [Much interaction] [More likely] [Some possibility to avoid]	Low (2)	Medium (4)	Medium (6)
	Likely (3) [Intensive interaction] [Quite likely] [Little possibility of avoidance]	Low (3)	Medium (6)	High (9)

1 – 3 Tolerable Risk  
 4 – 6 Moderate Risk  
 9 High Risk – Intolerable

Monitor regularly to ensure that the risk does not grow.  
 Potentially serious. Long term issues anticipated. Plan ahead.  
**ACT NOW.**

**Part 3 - Review****Category No:** **1** Regular (24 monthly) review **2** Result of accident **3** Result of near miss **4** Change of process **5** Change of location **6** Personnel change

Date:	Category No	Assessors/s	Comments	Action Required	Date Closed
Aug 19	1, 4	Michael Thomas	Regular review & change to structure of site risk assessments. Individual site risk assessments withdrawn & replaced by zoned / themed risk assessments.	N/A	N/A
Aug 21	1	Michael Thomas	Regular review. Minor edits to improve clarity. Website links to The Parks Trust site pages added where available.	N/A	N/A

## Part 4 - Briefing Sheet

Use this sheet to record persons whom have been briefed on the contents of this risk assessment.

### RISK ASSESSMENT BRIEFING GIVEN BY:

DATE	NAME	SIGNATURE