

AquaticEngineering

Working Above Water, On Water & Under Water

AquaticEngineering's Floating Nesting Rafts

AquaticEngineering is the UK's leading designer, fabricator and installer of Floating Nesting Islands, Rafts and Platforms for: Swans, Grebes and Terns etc



AquaticEngineering come across many examples of poorly conceived floating islands – apparently anyone can build one 'cheaply' from scrap materials – however not only do they look like scrap, but they're often potential death traps to wildlife and the people who need to maintain them!





Construction materials not only need to be visually appropriate, fit for purpose & remain so in often exposed sites, they shouldn't have entrapment potential inherently 'built in'!



A mute swan rescued from a slow death having been entangled in the fishing net support used in the construction of a floating raft.



AquaticEngineering's Consultant Rescues 'another' Entrapped Coot from a slow Death!



That's not to say some birds are fussy about their nesting sites
On the contrary they're extremely adaptable and will utilise what's on hand!



'On Holiday' an Oyster Catcher visiting an AquaticEngineering Bioengineered Island



An early prototype nesting raft being installed on Kensington Long Water (Serpentine)



Our floating nesting platforms (tern raft, Attenborough SSSI) can support a 3 tonne load which makes them stable and safe to access. AquaticEngineering are working with a number of agencies to improve designs for species specific nesting platforms: swans, grebes, sand martins, waders and terns etc. Egg and chick antipredation by gulls, mink & otters are of prime importance



A Tern raft being transported by barge to Reedham Water from Howe Hill Staithe (Norfolk Broads)



A Trial 'Concept' Tern Raft Installed 'free of charge' on Ranworth Broad – Norfolk Wildlife Trust



Positioning an early 16m² Tern Raft design - Attenborough Nature Reserve SSSI



2 tern nesting rafts designed to be mink and otter proof, with Perspex sides for 'birders' – installation at the Nene Park Trust Peterborough March 2013. Units are unsinkable due to their internal fill. They are fabricated at our Isle of Wight Factory from 85% recycled materials.





Terns soon take up residence



A successful season 4 months following installation, with over 20 chicks raised on 2 rafts





Swan nesting on an AquaticEngineering Bioengineered Island



Although not the target species for this nesting raft, the coot and chicks didn't mind!



2 Concept Great Crested Grebe Nesting Platforms – Talybont Reservoir Wales



In early 2013 AquaticEngineering were commissioned by the Friends of Talybont Reservoir in partnership with Welsh Water to design & supply two floating nesting platforms suitable for Great Crested Grebes. The design was required to be functional with a submerged access ramp as well as aesthetically pleasing due to its location in the Central Brecon Beacons National Park. Plants were collected and grown on by 'The Friends' so that the rafts could be planted on delivery with appropriate mature 'local provenance' aquatic plants.



Whatever your nesting requirements contact us in the first instance for free and impartial advice.



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