



## DOES YOUR DEVELOPMENT REQUIRE GREAT CRESTED NEWT (GCN) SURVEYS?

BOOK YOUR GCN SURVEY IN NOW!

GCNs are making their way into ponds across the country, and it's during this season that any GCNs which may be local to your development can be identified. The species is a European Protected Species, and afforded full legal protection under UK Law (Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981). It is an offence to kill, injure, capture, disturb, or sell them, or to damage or destroy their habitat. If there are water bodies located within a 500m radius of your proposed development, you may require GCN surveys.

**Presence or likely absence of GCNs can be determined with a simple test for their DNA within the water bodies from mid-April to late June. A full population estimate survey can be undertaken mid-March to late June.**

Guidelines on GCN pond surveys state that site visits must be undertaken between **mid-March and late-June**, in suitable weather conditions, with at least 50% of visits between **mid-April and mid-May**. Therefore it is important to book now to avoid delays in your development.

**Contact our ecology team soon as possible to book a survey: [jamesblake@jba-landmarc.com](mailto:jamesblake@jba-landmarc.com) / 01787 248216**

Our helpful **Ecology Survey Calendar** will help you plan ahead, and thus help you avoid any potentially costly delays.

### ECOLOGY SURVEYING CALENDAR

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<b>Badger</b>		1 x survey during optimal period										
<b>Bat Roost Assessment</b>	1 x survey during optimal period											
<b>Bat Activity/Emergence</b>	Hibernation surveys only			Surveys spread throughout the optimal period						Activity Only	Hibernation surveys only	
<b>Breeding Bird</b>			4 x surveys									
<b>Wintering Bird</b>	2 x surveys										2 x surveys	
<b>Botanical</b>												
<b>Dormouse</b>				Nest box tube surveys								Nut search only
<b>PEA *</b>				1 x survey								
<b>Great Crested Newt</b>			4 x surveys minimum; 6 x surveys if GCN are present*		eDNA mid-April to June							
<b>Invertebrate</b>					3 x surveys (Spring, Summer & Autumn)							
<b>Otter</b>												
<b>Red Squirrel</b>	Visual surveys				Hair tube surveys						Visual surveys	
<b>Reptile</b>				7 x surveys completed between 10°C and 21°C								
<b>Water Vole</b>	Burrow survey only	Habitat assessment		2 x surveys required: first - April to June; second - July to September					Habitat assessment	Burrow survey only		
<b>White-Clawed Crayfish</b>	Habitat assessment			Weather dependent		1 x survey				Habitat assessment		

\* Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA).

Half of total surveys required between mid-April and mid-May.