

Pools and ponds

In contrast to lakes, ponds and pools are defined as relatively small (human) scale waterbodies that provide both recreational potential and wildlife habitats. 'Pool' is used to describe a waterbody that has bathing and/or merely visual and cooling functions. Alternatively 'pond' describes a waterbody that provides a habitat for plants and associated wildlife and is predominantly green in character. As water spaces, both pools and ponds have the potential to provide distinct and contrasting (to land) landscape experiences. A summary of some important design considerations to maximise experiential qualities of pools and ponds includes:

- enabling people to have contact with water as often as possible for bathing or touching
- manipulating light and darkness
- manipulating stillness and movement; silence and splash
- juxtaposition of texture, colour and forms of landform, vegetation and structures with water
- exploiting reflection
- providing for wildlife and plants.