

Newsletter winter 2010- Nene Catchment Partnership launched

Your local catchment partnership was launched in Northamptonshire on Friday 27th November. The Nene Catchment Partnership comprises of Natural England, Environment Agency and River Nene Regional Park (RNRP) and will be working on the Upper Nene and Upper Ise catchments. It will be focusing mainly on reducing sediment and Phosphates in the rivers and Metaldehyde (slug pellets) in the drinking water bodies such as at Pitsford Reservoir.

The launch event featured a talk on the Nene Catchment Partnership by Dr Robin Field, a talk and practical session on 'Practical soil management' by Simon Draper, and a talk and demonstration of Metaldehyde best practice and pellet applicator calibration by Colin Myram. Nearly 40 people attended including farmers, landowners, agronomists, Natural England staff, Environment Agency staff, and RNRP staff. They heard how the Nene Catchment Partnership was offering free one to one advice visits, specialist advice visits, training courses, farm events and newsletters from now until March 2011. One local farmer said of the event 'one of the best events of its kind I have attended, very knowledgeable speakers and excellent presentations.'

Several farmers have already been visited and schemes instigated to fence off parts of the River Ise and Nene from stock and provide drinking troughs to reduce sediment and nutrients leaching into the river. Riverside arable fields have also been targeted and several are to be reverted back to species rich grassland over the next couple of years.



Simon Draper in the field discussing soil structure Colin Myram demonstrating pellet spread in the field

Forthcoming events

Monday 8th February 2010 – Think soils for better yields workshop, 10.30am-1pm @ Meeting Room at Strixton Manor Business Centre, Strixton, Wellingborough, Northants NN29 7PA (Lunch provided). To book: email: simon@indagronomy.co.uk Tel or Fax: 01359 251804

The Nene Catchment Partnership will be targeting our free advisory activities at farms in the areas highlighted on the map below. Farm advisory visits to assist with soil, nutrient, and pesticide management are now available.



If you are interested in finding out more about the free advisory services available from the Nene Catchment Partnership please contact us. Alternatively complete the tear off slip below.

Email: RNRP@northamptonshire.gov.uk Tel: 01604-236764 Web: <http://www.rnrp.org/CSF>

Return your slip to:

Freepost NN4 7BR
River Nene Regional Park
c/o Northamptonshire County Council
PO Box 221, First Floor
John Dryden House
8-10 The Lakes
Northampton, NN4 7DE

Name:

Position:

Organisation:

Address:

Post code:

Telephone:

email address:

I would like to have a visit please