



What's it all about?



We're a 3 year Heritage Lottery funded programme with a real community focus to our 19 projects!! We're all about increasing understanding of environmental issues within Windermere's Catchment & making a difference.

The main issues:

- high **phosphate** levels.
- the amount of **sediment** getting into the lake.
- **Aliens** (or non-native invasive plant species) like Himalayan Balsam.

Windermere Reflections projects split into 4 groups:

- We'll be making '**practical improvements**' like tree planting & river bank repairs.
- Encouraging everyone to **make choices that reduce our impact on the environment**, like buying dishwasher detergent with no phosphate in it.
- **Celebrating our beautiful landscape** through art, music & literature.
- **Repairing & recording our cultural landscape**, like work to improve Ambleside Roman Fort.
- & finally **training courses**, you can learn to lead & manage volunteers, or about environmental issues.

Many projects also help preserve, restore & protect important natural habitats.



Get involved

You could learn new skills in practical conservation, help us with events, become an ambassador, help with our schools programme, do some research, run pub quizzes; or even help us in the office.

Interested? Get in touch!

To find out more pop in and see us, we're next to the Armitage Museum in Ambleside, there are 3 of us (Liz – Manager, Amanda & Debbie – Project Officers), or give us a call on 015394 34401 See our temporary website at www.windermere-reflections.org.uk

To **volunteer** get in touch with Debbie Binch on 015394 34401 / 07917 263789 or debbie.binch@environment-agency.gov.uk (Wednesday – Friday)

What's a catchment? = The area that drains into a lake or river.

All water landing on fellsides, fields, gardens, roads, etc; & waste water that flows through treatment works or septic tanks eventually ends up in the lake. Windermere has a large catchment including 2 rivers, smaller lakes & tarns. Rain washes soils & additives like fertilisers into rivers & lakes, & our water treatment works are overloaded with phosphate from our detergents.

The funders whose logos you can see above are helping to deliver our projects & so are these organisations: South Cumbria Rivers Trust, Friends of the Lake District, Nurture Lakeland & Windermere Rotary Club.