

Climate Change and Sustainability Newsletter



Runnymede
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Welcome to the **Runnymede Climate Change and Sustainability** e-newsletter, and thank you for subscribing. Each quarter, we will be sending you updates on environmental initiatives taking place within the Council and across the borough, alongside information and advice to help you live more sustainably.

For more Council content, please follow us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn for daily updates.



‘Our Beautiful Borough’ photography competition returns to Runnymede

We think that Runnymede is beautiful. From canals to caterpillars, daisies to deer, and owls to oak trees, there is so much nature to enjoy in our borough, and we want you to help us celebrate this. As a lead-in to Great Big Green Week 2026, the ‘Our Beautiful Borough’ Photography Competition is returning to Runnymede. We are asking you to send us your best nature and wildlife photos taken anywhere in the borough of Runnymede.

The competition is now open for submissions and closes on Sunday 31 May 2026. There are two categories for entries (‘under 18’ and ‘18 and over’) and the winner in each category will receive a £50 Social Supermarket voucher.

To submit your entries, please email a maximum of 3 photographs to climatechange@runnymede.gov.uk with your name, age category, and the location and a short description of each photo. Please ensure your photos are clearly labelled so that we can identify which location/description corresponds to each photo. For full terms and conditions on the competition, visit our website [here](#).

Need some inspiration? See below the winners and highly commended entries from 2025 below:



Great Big Green Week returning to Runnymede in 2026

THE GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK

Following a report on the Council's involvement in Great Big Green Week 2025, the Corporate Management Committee has agreed to support, promote, co-ordinate, provide assistance, and participate in the Great Big Green Week 2026, taking place across the UK from 6-14 June. Great Big Green Week is the UK's biggest ever celebration of community action to tackle climate change and protect nature.

To view the full report on Great Big Green Week 2025 and stay up to date with plans for 2026 as they develop, visit our dedicated pages, and if you're part of a group interested in getting involved, we would love to hear from you!

Runnymede Grows

Runnymede Borough Council has launched an exciting initiative to get more people in Runnymede growing their own fruit, vegetables and herbs!

We are partnering with [Pot Gang](#) to provide Runnymede residents with FREE taster packs to start people off on their growing journeys.

Each pack contains: Three types of fruit, veg or herb seed appropriate for the time of year, compost and the equipment needed to grow your seeds and step by step growing guides.

Complete the online form to request your free kit. You will then be provided with a unique code to allow you to apply for your taster pack on the Pot Gang website.

[For more details click here](#)

[Request your free kit](#)



Runnymede Cooks



Would you like to learn how to cook healthy, plant based meals? After receiving funding from the National Lottery Community Fund, from April 2026, the Council will be running FREE in person workshops across the Borough (12 in total) for Runnymede residents with our partner Sally Gerrard from GoodCooks. Sally has been writing recipes, creating delicious food for her clients and running cookery classes for many years.

- [GoodCooks](#)

Even if you are a complete beginner, you can still attend our classes. Sally will guide you through all the skills you need to make cooking fun and tasty. To express an interest in taking part, please fill in the online form.

[For more details click here](#)

[Express your interest](#)



Junior Rangers Project opening for sign-ups

[Learn more about Junior Rangers](#)

[Sign up now](#)

Are you aged between 13-18 and love the outdoors? Do you know a teenager who wants to learn new skills and make a real difference to the environment?

The Runnymede Junior Ranger Project is a hands-on, outdoor programme designed to inspire and empower young people to care for and

protect their local green spaces. The scheme is returning for a third phase following huge success with the first two cohorts, and those involved can expect to get involved in loads of practical conservation activities, from pond clearing and deadwood fencing, to tree planting and habitat creation.

It's completely free to join and sessions run one Sunday a month from September 2026 led by Council staff. So, if you go to school or live in Runnymede and enjoy working outdoors, this is the group for you!

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – apply for funding

We are inviting applications for Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding for any organisation involved in the delivery of infrastructure to help support new development and growth across the borough. This funding could be suitable for climate-related infrastructure projects in Runnymede which could help meet climate change and environmental protection objectives. The 2026 bidding round will be open to 17 June 2026.

Find out more and how to apply



If you have any suggestions or comments related to all-things climate change and sustainability in Runnymede, get in touch with the Council's Climate Change Team at climatechange@runnymede.gov.uk.

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