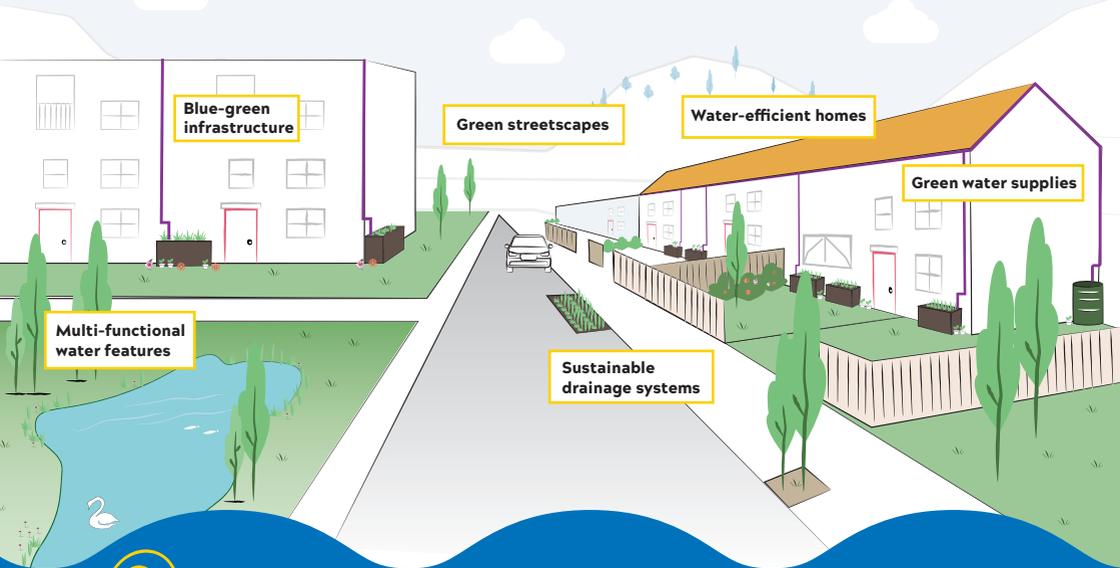


Water smart communities

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What is a water smart community?

Water smart communities combine different elements of water management together with town planning and design to deliver multiple benefits for communities and the environment. They use a more holistic and integrated approach to urban water management, with the aim to:

- **Enhance liveability** by contributing to green streetscapes and high quality open space
- **Promote sustainable use of water resources** and infrastructure to enable growth
- **Build resilience** against the potential impacts of climate change and extreme weather events
- **Contribute to natural capital and biodiversity** through multi-functional water features
- **Deliver water efficient homes** to reduce household bills and support affordability

Creating a water smart community

There is no single 'water smart' solution, rather an approach that aims to recognise the value of water and how it contributes to the environment and communities. This approach can be applied to existing communities or new developments across different scales, with the solutions varying depending on the specific site.

The overarching principles focus on providing multi-functional water management assets which are integrated as part of the community. For example:

Define the overarching community objectives

- Water efficient housing
- Lower household bills
- High quality open space
- Biodiversity net gain
- Surface water flows and quality managed on site

Identify water management measures to support the objectives

- Water saving technologies
- Smart meters
- Education
- Green (non-potable) water supplies
- Sustainable drainage systems (SuDs)

Consider how the measures can be integrated to achieve multiple benefits

Designing a surface water pond for both attenuation and green water storage, which is integrated as part of the public open space to improve amenity and provide habitat.



Find out more

Anglian Water have a number of initiatives that support the delivery of water smart communities, ranging from saving water in the home, to managing surface water at source, through to testing new innovations for reducing water use.

We encourage you to consider how this approach can be applied to achieve multiple benefits for new developments and existing communities.

If you would like more information, please contact:

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