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Work starts on eco-friendly outdoor classroom at Greenwich Peninsula Ecology Park

London residents will soon be able to get closer to nature, thanks to the construction of a new £200,000 outdoor classroom at Greenwich Peninsula Ecology Park.

Managed by national land management charity, The Land Trust, the Ecology Park is a green oasis in a fast-developing urban area and provides a valuable home for a wide variety of plants, animals and insects.

The park is situated in the heart of Greenwich Millennium Village alongside the River Thames and is an increasingly popular venue for a wide range of outdoor activities delivered by The Conservation Volunteers (TCV), from wildlife walks, bug hunting and den building to park ranger volunteer training.

Funded by Ikea, Veolia Environmental Trust, Postcode Local Trust; Bernard Sunley Foundation, the local Friends of Greenwich Ecology Park and community donations, the classroom will accommodate up to 30 people for a wide range of activities for all ages, and is due to open in May.

Simon Pile, Estates Manager with The Land Trust said: “The new outdoor classroom will be a fantastic resource for the whole community. The Conservation Volunteers do a great job in attracting both children and adults to the park. Their events and activities are increasingly popular, so this new resource will provide much-needed additional space for inspiring people about wildlife, conservation and the natural environment.

“Getting close to nature is more challenging in London than in many parts of the country. For many schoolchildren, a visit to the Greenwich Ecology Park can be their first opportunity to explore the natural world, so this classroom will help us expand this vital role of connecting young people to the wildlife habitats on their doorstep.”

Joanne Smith, Senior Warden, from The Conservation Volunteers, added: “We are really excited about the new building and can’t wait to open it up to the public and start organising new community activities. We’re extremely grateful to the funders, volunteers and local community for making this happen.”

For more information about The Land Trust, volunteering and activities at the Greenwich Peninsula Ecology Park, please go to www.thelandtrust.org.uk.

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Notes to Editors

For further media enquiries, please contact Lynn Pegler or Spencer Fitz-Gibbon, Communications, The Land Trust. Email: lynnpegler@thelandtrust.org.uk. Tel 01925 852005. Mobile 07783 686246.

Artist impression of the new pond dipping platform, copyright Graham Edwards Architects.

The Land Trust

The Land Trust is a national charity with influential partners, members and trustees. We manage open spaces on behalf of and in partnership with local communities.

We are leading the charge for cost effective solutions to deliver high quality and sustainably maintained open space which preserves the character, value and benefits of our open spaces.

The Conservation Volunteers

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) manages Greenwich Peninsula Ecology Park for the Land Trust and is one of the largest, most dynamic and effective volunteering organisations in the UK. TCV works together with people and communities to transform their health, prospects and outdoor places for the long term. Through a network of 2,000 community groups, volunteers head out in all weathers to take part in a wide range of activities in their local green spaces.