

# Derby Telegraph

## Feeding Alvaston Park ducks bread is attracting vicious rats and poisonous algae

Park visitors are being asked to feed them bird seed

BYCHRIS MALLETT

17:46, 21 AUG 2017

UPDATED 18:40, 21 AUG 2017



A group that helps run Alvaston Park wants people to stop feeding the ducks bread as it's creating poisonous algae.

And a city councillor who represents the area says it's also drawing rats which attack the park's wildlife.

Alvaston Park Friends posted on Facebook to say that feeding the ducks bread isn't good for them either.

Their post, from the perspective of the ducks, said: "Bread makes us ill as it does not contain the right nutrition or calories that we need to keep us warm in winter.

Derby charity worker giving kids cheap lunches threatened with violence by rivals  
"Rotting bread pollutes our water and causes nasty surface algae, which kills our fish and gives us diseases. It also makes our water smell.

"We do like seedless grapes, cooked rice, birdseed, peas, corn, oats and chopped lettuce."

The ducks in Alvaston Park shouldn't be fed bread

Councillor Paul Bayliss, who represents Alvaston and attends Friends meetings, said the algae was an ongoing problem but that it was being well managed by the park's pond wardens.  
Mr Bayliss added: "We're not going to stop people feeding the birds but we'd like them to be aware of the advice.

"Bread that ends up in the water does actually promote algae growth and there's been a problem with rats down there which the bread encourages.