

Welcome to Aardvark's environmental news briefing

- **Dam it! How beavers could save Britain from flooding:** Since their trial reintroduction in Devon, the animal's engineering skills have reduced floodwater and created a paradise for local wildlife. Should we bring them back for good? (theguardian.com 08/08/2017)
- **Super-Colossal Wind Turbines May Be on the Horizon:** If wind power is going to displace inexpensive fossil fuels, wind turbines need to get bigger — much bigger. (nbcnews.com 07/08/2017)
- **Mazda boosts petrol engine efficiency in fresh blow to diesel:** Japanese carmaker says from 2019 it will sell cars fitted with engines that largely eliminate need for spark plugs, improving fuel consumption by 30 per cent. (businessgreen.com 09/08/2017)
- **Hard Brexit a 'disaster scenario' for waste treatment capacity, warns Suez:** The UK is faced with a "potential disaster scenario" that could see a Hard Brexit exacerbate a shortfall of waste treatment infrastructure over the next 10 years, waste management firm Suez has warned. (edie.net 16/08/2017)
- **Back to the wild: How nature is reclaiming farmland:** Farmland is shrinking for the first time on record thanks in part to consumer choices. What does this mean for the environment and the future of food? (newscientist.com 09/08/2017)
- **Fish mistaking plastic debris in ocean for food, study finds:** Behavioural evidence suggests marine organisms are not just ingesting microplastics by accident but actively seeking them out as food. (theguardian.com 16/08/2017)
- **World on course for one of warmest years on record even without a natural El Nino boost:** Last month, when an iceberg about a quarter the size of Wales calved from the Larsen C ice shelf, was a statistical tie with July 2016 for the warmest July in 137 years on record, Nasa says. (independent.co.uk 17/08/2017)

And finally...

- **Fish sauced? Goldfish turn to alcohol to survive icy winters:** Scientists have decoded the secrets behind a goldfish's ability to survive in ice-covered lakes. They've worked out how and why the fish turn lactic acid in their bodies into alcohol, as a means of staying alive. Some goldfish were found to have levels well above legal drink-driving limits in many countries. (bbc.co.uk 11/08/2017)

Latest news from the Aardvark team

Aardvark has successfully secured delegated planning consent for a prestigious Sports Centre to develop two additional irrigation tanks on site. The additional storage capacity will enable the Centre to undertake separate treatment of specialist playing surfaces, whilst allowing irrigation of other pitches via the existing irrigation system. For all the Aardvark news go to www.aardvarkem.co.uk.

