

Living by the Jubilee – residents guide

March 2018

Welcome to the Jubilee River

This document is for members of the public who live near or frequently use the Jubilee River. It contains useful information about access, responsibilities and safety around the river.



Aerial view of the Jubilee River

Flood defence

- The Jubilee River is part of The Maidenhead, Windsor and Eton Flood Alleviation Scheme. It was built by The Environment Agency and completed in 2001.

This scheme protects approximately 3,200 homes from the risk of flooding

- The Jubilee River acts as a flood relief channel for the River Thames, allowing water levels to be controlled and diverted from the Thames during times of high flow.

Taplow Weir is the largest of five control structures spread along the length of the Jubilee River

- Since its construction, the weirs on the Jubilee River have been opened over 30 times to reduce flood risk from the River Thames. Its use in 2003 protected more than 1,000 properties from flooding in the area.
- When the weirs are open the maximum flow rate through Taplow Weir is 180 cumecs; close to three 40ft shipping containers worth of water per second. In comparison the average flow rate is 10 cumecs; an average size van's worth of water per second.

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

Riparian responsibilities

The legalities behind riverside living

The Environment Agency has published guidance on your rights and responsibilities as a riparian owner which can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse>

This covers:

- Finding out if you own a watercourse
- Your responsibilities as a riparian owner
- How to get advice about owning a watercourse
- Management of flood risk: the rules and responsibilities
- Getting permission to do work in or around a watercourse
- Discharging water or effluent
- Fishing and boating



Safety

Lifebuoy rings are provided at selected points along the river for emergency use. There are also information plaques located on all 22 bridges with useful details in the event of an emergency.

Swimming and non-motorised vessels are not permitted in the channel unless formal permission has been granted by the Environment Agency.

The water should only be entered and exited via designated access points which can be found near to the car parks and weirs. The banks into the river are often steep due to their main function as a flood defence.

Do not attempt to cross or go over the weirs by any means as there are strong currents around these structures. Exit the water and walk round to the next access point, often found just on the other side of the structure. This is especially important by the Taplow and Marsh Lane Weirs as these can move without warning.

Do not enter the water while the Jubilee River is operational as a flood defence, as currents will be stronger than usual.

Please be aware that the Jubilee River is on average between 4 and 5 meters deep but this can vary depending on the flows and proximity to structure.



On the river

Walking, cycling and horse riding



The Jubilee River offers a wheelchair friendly single-track pathway running along its full 11.6km length.

A large area of this acts as Route 61 of the National Cycle Network, which begins on the A4 in Taplow and follows the river until Pockocks Lane in Datchet. Maps can be found at:

<https://www.sustrans.org.uk/ncn/map/route/route-61>.

There is also an extensive riverside bridleway which gives great opportunities for horse riding in and around Dorney and provides links to other local routes. Information can be found at:

<http://www.bhsaccess.org.uk/ridemaps/Ridingmap.php>

Wildlife



The Dorney Wetlands provide a fantastic area of natural habitat. It's a superb breeding and feeding ground for many bird species with a lookout point, three bird screens, footbridges and a boardwalk provided.

Alongside this are woodlands, reed beds and wildflower grasslands that run along the river, ideal habitats for wildlife.

Fishing



Anglers are also welcomed to the banks with the stretch between Amerden Lane Bridge and the M4 managed by Thames Valley Angling Association. Platforms are available for disabled anglers by the car park at Lake End Road, Dorney. Please note fishing is only permitted on the public footpath side of the river and is not permitted in the Dorney Wetlands as this area is a conservation site. For more information please visit: <http://thamesvalleyaa.webs.com/>. To buy a rod licence visit your local post office or go online at: <https://www.gov.uk/fishing-licences>. Please be aware that you may also need the landowner's permission when fishing on private land.

Activities



Powered vessels are not permitted on the Jubilee River due to the control weirs along its length. There is no access for powered craft from the River Thames at either end.

Non-powered vessels must seek permission from the Environment Agency and then only enter the Jubilee River via the designated access points found near car parks and weirs.

A yearly 10km charity swim also takes place for details search:

<https://regonline.activeeurope.com/builder/site/tab2.aspx?EventID=2005688>

Natural design: construction for the future



The Jubilee River was designed to appear natural with the channel varying in appearance. As such it also provides a fantastic outdoor resource for the area with accessible paths, bridleways and portage points along its length.

11.6km



From its beginning in Maidenhead to its end in Datchet.

Up to
102m



Wide in areas such as the Dorney Wetlands.

38



Hectares of reed bed created as part of a wildlife corridor.

326



Hectares of wildflower grasslands planted to encourage new species to the area.

193



Hectares of native woodland created as part of the wildlife corridor.

25yr



Landscape management plan to ensure the continued maintenance of the Jubilee River.

For more information

To find out when the Jubilee River is in use you can monitor the Environment Agencies flood warnings page or sign up for our Flood Alerts at:

www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings

Or by calling:

03459 88 11 88

This gives up to date information on water levels in your area.

If you have any queries on this document please email:

enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

Or call our customer services on:

03708 506 506

For queries specific to the Jubilee River please email:

enquiries_THM@environment-agency.gov.uk

To report an incident call our hotline on:

0800 80 70 60



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floodline
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