

River Advice for Boaters (RAB)

River Great Ouse River Nene River Ancholme



Anglian
Waterways

River Advice for Boaters (formerly known as Strong Stream Advice) is a free messaging service provided by the Environment Agency, to advise waterway users when levels and flows are changing and also when locks are being prepared to discharge flood water. We strongly advise against attempting to navigate during these processes.

Notice boards, flags and lights are displayed prominently on riverbanks to inform boaters of the status of the river and red flags are also raised at several boat clubs and marinas. River Advice for Boaters is currently issued on the River Ancholme, River Nene and River Great Ouse.

How do I register for the service?

You can register, cancel and update your registration using the following contact details:-

- Telephone: **020302 55068**
- Email: **waterwaysssaanglian@environment-agency.gov.uk**

It is important you update your details if they change, as failure to do so will mean you may not receive the messages you have requested.

What information do I need to provide?

- The river(s) you would like to receive the messages for.
- Your name and address.
- A telephone number for the Environment Agency's Flood Warning System to ring – this can be a landline or mobile number. We recommend you receive a voice message as we cannot guarantee text and/ or email messages will be sent by a third party.
- Whether you would also like to receive text and/ or email messages.
- Your boat name and/or registration number – we use this as a security question.

What are the messages?

You will receive one of the following messages when there has been a change in river conditions:-

Not in Force	There are currently no Caution or Strong Stream Advice messages in force.
Caution for River Great Ouse only	Navigate with extreme caution. River flows are above normal and headroom will be restricted at some sites for a time.
Strong Stream Advice	Strongly advise against attempting to navigate. River flows are above normal, too fast for safe manoeuvring and headroom at some sites will be restricted.

The River Great Ouse is split into 2 sections: Bedford to St Ives and St Ives to Earith. You will receive messages for each section.

Further information

We recommend everyone on Anglian Waterways should register to receive the RAB messages as it is a useful way of making sure the river is safe to navigate.

You can find out if RAB has been issued by calling the Environment Agency's Floodline on **0345 988 1188**.

Select option 1, then option 1 again, then option 2 and enter the quick dial number(s) below, for the area(s) of the river you want to hear about:-

Great Ouse	Bedford to St Ives	033211
Great Ouse	St Ives to Earith	033212
Nene		032112
Ancholme		031212

River closures and restrictions

We also offer an online shared calendar that provides up to date information on river conditions for boating on Anglian Waterways.

This and our other river calendars can be accessed on our Northampton Marina website via

<https://www.northamptonmarina.co.uk/navigation-works-calendar>

Although this shouldn't be a replacement for registering your details with us to receive River Advice for Boaters, you may

find it useful and you can refer back to it regularly and create a subscription to get notifications sent in a way that you want, when you want.

Reversed locks

Following bouts of rainfall and when our rivers are in Strong Stream Advice, some locks may have water pouring over the top of the pointing gates. Keep your boat clear of the overtopping water. The pointing gates can also be chained open and the guillotine gate is used as a sluice. The locks cannot be used and you are strongly advised to tie up in a safe location, when the river is flowing so strongly.



STRONG STREAM ADVICE
Do not attempt to navigate.
Locks discharging floodwater.
Floodline: 0845 988 1188



**LOCK CLOSED
FOR ESSENTIAL
MAINTENANCE WORKS**
For further information call 03708 506 506

Useful Contacts and Information

Environment Agency Boat Registration
Tel 03708 506506

Anglian Waterways River Advice for Boaters
www.gov.uk/guidance/anglian-waterways-river-conditions-closures-and-restrictions

Canal and River Trust
www.canalrivertrust.org.uk



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website

www.visitanglianwaterways.org