



Using Water Wisely

Ten of the best tips to help you use less water and save money!

Turn off the tap when you brush your teeth.
It'll save up to 18 litres per minute

Bin it, don't flush it.
Throw tissues etc. into the bin, not the toilet.

Fix that leak!
One drip per second adds up to over 20 litres per day

Chill drinking water in the fridge. Waiting for the tap to run cold wastes water.

Wait until your washing machine or dishwasher is full before use.
Save up to 4,500 litres per month!

Wash fruit and veg in a bowl of water rather than under a running tap.

Don't cut your grass too short.
Longer grass retains more moisture so less watering is required.

Water plants at **cooler** parts of the day, such as in the **evening**, to avoid **evaporation**.

When cleaning out a fish tank, use the wastewater to water your plants.

Get a water butt to **harvest rainfall** - it's free water!

Be waterwise

For more water saving advice visit www.waterwise.org.uk



Crack Willow

Rivers are special places for wildlife

Rivers and streams are home to some of the UK's rarest plants and animals.

The water vole, otter, white-clawed crayfish, Atlantic salmon, brown trout, European eel and lamprey are priority species for conservation in the Biodiversity Action Plan.



Kingfisher



Sand Martin



Common Alder



European Otter



Dipper



Grey Wagtail



Water Vole

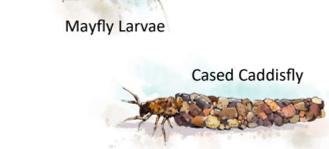


Adult Mayfly

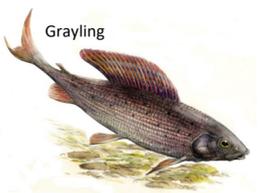
Mayfly Larvae



Water Crowfoot



Cased Caddisfly



Grayling



Atlantic Salmon



Brown Trout



White-Clawed Crayfish



Bullhead



Lamprey



Daubenton's Bat

Healthy River Code



Check your home for misconnections.

Your bath, shower, toilet, washing machine and dishwasher should be connected to the foul sewer and not the surface water drain. Visit www.connectright.org.uk for more information and advice.



Don't pour unwanted paint, chemicals or oils down sinks or drains.

Take them to your local household recycling centre instead.



Don't throw litter or grass cuttings in rivers.

It causes pollution, harms wildlife and creates blockages which can lead to flooding.



Save water at home.

Visit www.waterwise.org.uk for water saving tips.



Only Rain Down the Drain.

The Yellow Fish is used to remind us not to pollute surface water drains. Look out for Yellow Fish in your neighbourhood.



Don't use toilets as bins.

Place nappies, wipes and other sanitary material in the bin to avoid blockages in your home and sewers overflowing into watercourses.



Put pet waste and litter in its place.

Waste left on the street can flow directly to your local watercourse.



Use garden products like slug pellets and weed killers with caution.

These chemicals can run-off and kill the animals and plants living in our rivers and streams.



Avoid washing your car or wheelie bin on the street.

Soap and chemicals can pollute watercourses. Use a drive-in car wash or clean your car or bin over grass or gravel.



You can report river pollution by calling the Environment Agency's 24-hour incident line: **0800 80 70 60**



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WATER FRIENDLY HOMES

Good Practice Guide



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Illustrations by Alan Duncan and David Birtwistle

