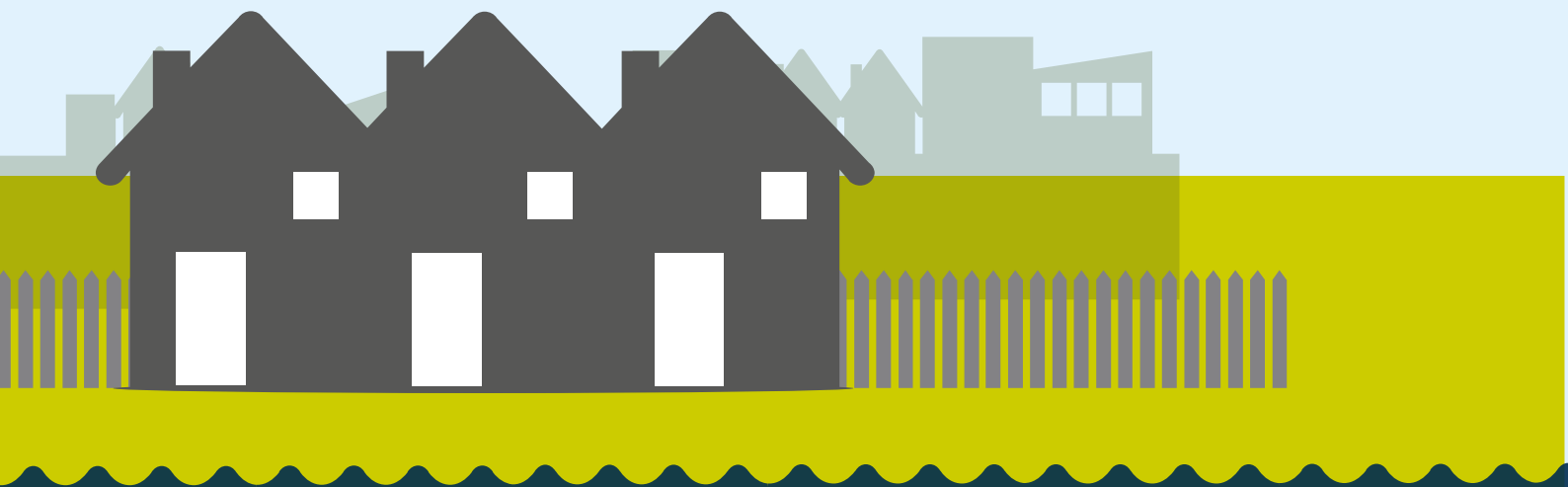


Living near to the River Greet



**A guide to living near
to a main river**

The Environment Agency is working with property owners in the local area, and we need your help to keep the community safe!

You may have a watercourse next to or in your back garden. As a property owner adjoining a river, you may also have certain rights and responsibilities (this is known as being a “riparian owner”).

Carrying out work near the River Greet:

In order to carry out works on or near a main river there is a requirement to apply for permission from the Environment Agency, and this is known as a Flood Risk Activity Permit. The Environment Agency may also need to access the **River Greet occasionally to assess** channel condition and plan any future maintenance activities.

Carrying out work near Potwell Dyke, Westhorpe Dumble and The Dumbles:

In order to carry out works near other watercourses you may need permission from Nottinghamshire County Council or Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board.

You should contact the relevant authority if you are planning any of the following flood risk activities:

Are you thinking of installing any structures?
(i.e. fencing, decking, jetties etc.)

We will need to assess whether the structure will require a permit, and the potential for it to cause any issues to the structural integrity of the river bank, or increase flood risk to yourselves or others.



Are you thinking of carrying out any building works?
Examples could include digging into the river bank or flood defence, building on or near to the river etc. If so, please contact us so we can assess whether the building works will require a permit or consent and the potential for the building works to cause any issues to the river bank or movement of the water.



Are you thinking of carrying out any gardening works?
Examples could include digging a flower bed or rockery near to the watercourse, planting trees on the channel side, removing grass cover etc.

If you are planning gardening works, please contact us so we can assess whether they will require a permit and the potential for them to cause any issues to the river bank or flood defence assets.



Please note that disposing of garden waste (grass/hedge cuttings, branches & soil) and any other waste materials into a watercourse, or leaving it where it may cause material to enter the channel, could increase flood risk to the community (branches can get caught in important flood defence structures). Waste materials can have the potential to cause pollution and you may also be committing an offence.

Works on a watercourse may require planning permission as well as a permit or consent. Contact Newark and Sherwood District Council to check whether you need planning permission.

Tel: 01636 650000 or Email: customerservices@nsdc.info

Contact us:

If you are unsure, whether your activity would be classed as a Flood Risk Activity, please check with the Environment Agency whether a Permit may be required. Some works are excluded or exempt from this, as long as you meet certain conditions.

More information on Flood Risk Activity Permits, exclusions and exemptions can be found on the Gov.uk website by searching for *“flood risk activities: environmental permits”*.

You are responsible for getting the correct permits you need to carry out works on or near to main rivers, and you may face enforcement action if you do not do this.

Your responsibilities:

Let water flow naturally, prevent pollution, protect wildlife and report any incidents.

Further guidance about being a riparian owner and living next to a watercourse can be found on the Gov.uk website by searching for *“owning a watercourse”*.

For advice on helping to create a healthy river and prevent flooding:

Contact our Customer Contact Centre on 03708 506 506

To report an incident:

Contact our 24 hour environment incident hotline on 0800 80 70 60

To speak to a Floodline adviser:

Contact our Floodline (24 hour) on 0345 988 1188

Further environmental advice and guidance can be found on the Gov.uk website by searching for *“Environment Agency”*.

Or email locally at EMDenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk