



Paddling & the Tidal Thames Environment

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- British Canoeing (formerly Canoe England) is the home association for canoeing in England and the GB Competition Team
- Strategic objectives include promoting:
  - The shared use of waterways to increase opportunities for canoeing
  - Good environmental practice for canoeing to be sustainable
  - .Volunteering for local environmental projects such as litter picks and removing invasive non-native species
- Working in partnerships to reach these objectives

## The Benefits:

- Physical activity for health & general well being.
- Increases engagement with the water environment
- Improved communications between paddlers, other river users, land owners and agencies to:
  - Enable shared management
  - Facilitate greater understanding
  - Increase opportunities for working towards mutual solutions
  - Increase opportunities for identifying sensitive areas and issues
  - Protect and to use the water environment responsibly

## The Paddlers



Navigating a canoe, kayak or stand-up paddleboard on the tidal Thames requires knowledge of the way the powerful tidal river operates, the environment and how boats and ships navigate upon it



## Paddling on the Tideway – Advice & Guidance



British Canoeing and the Port of London Authority have produced a Code of Practice

Advice is provided for planning to navigate safely and be environmentally responsible between Teddington and the sea

Canoe clubs in the London area were consulted and contributed to the Code

The code is available from:  
[WWW.boatingonthethames.co.uk](http://WWW.boatingonthethames.co.uk)

## Environmental Issues

What are the potential impacts of canoeing

British Canoeing and Natural England Memorandum of Understanding states:

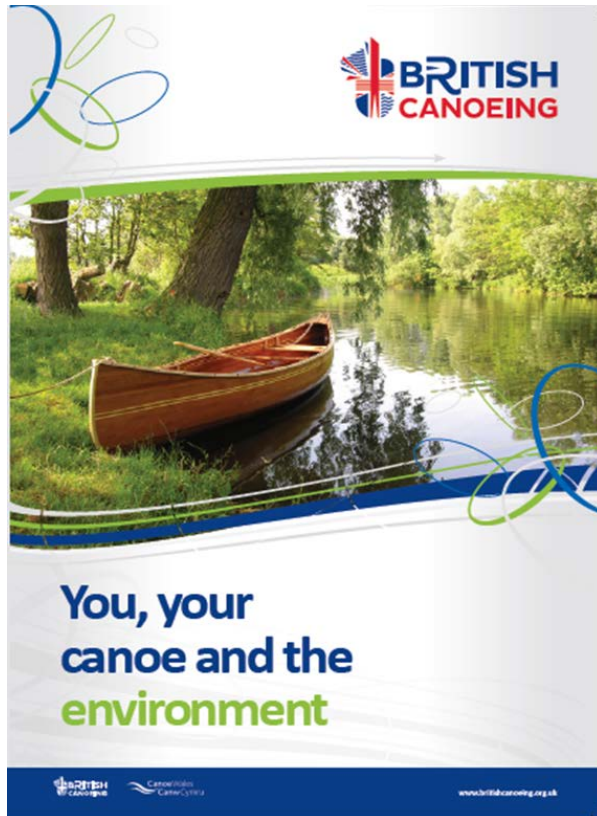
*there is unlikely to be any significant impact on or lasting disturbance to wildlife and the water environment from the passage of canoes.”*

To avoid potential impacts, especially from invasive species, workshop events for coaches and volunteers help promote environmental good practice at clubs and activity centres.

Care for the environment and bio-security has been introduced into the coaching syllabus.

The broad aims of the Water Framework are supported that protect and enhance the water environment

## Other Environmental Information



The leaflet “You your canoe environment “ also has guidance that applies to both the marine and freshwater environment such as in the Upper District at Richmond .

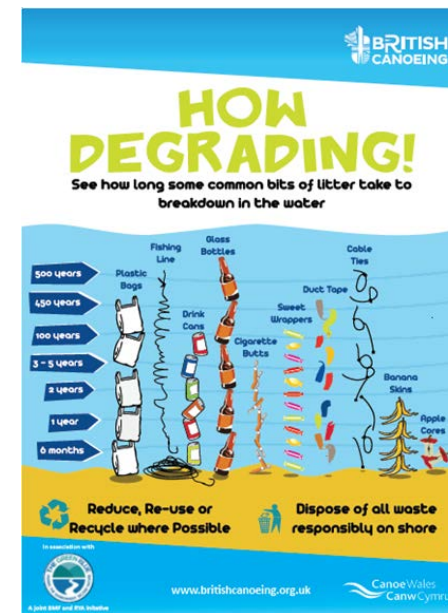
Plus general advice for:

- considering other users,
- safety
- Using suitable equipment  
invasive non-native species and bio-security  
measures- **CHECK CLEAN DRY**

## Bio –security & Litter

British Canoeing works with DEFRA and other organisations in actively supporting measures to minimise the risk or prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species and litter.

Poster campaigns highlight the issues





For further information visit: [www.britishcanoeing.org.uk](http://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk)

Or

Email: [info@britishcanoeing.org.uk](mailto:info@britishcanoeing.org.uk)

