

RESOURCES

and Watercourse Information



Flood Risk Management

The Roles and Responsibilities document links to flood risk management authorities which may hold information about their respective responsibilities.

Additionally, the following organisations also provide support and guidance to communities in respect of flood risk:

- Catchment Based Approach provide information on Natural Flood Management
<https://catchmentbasedapproach.org/learn/what-is-natural-flood-management/>
- The National Flood Forum are a charity who support people who are at risk of flooding. They have lots of information and guidance available on their website <https://nationalfloodforum.org.uk/>



Furthermore, if you are interested in flood risk volunteering, for example joining a local flood group, the directory of services below may be of interest:



Consents and permits

For constructions and alterations in a main river, an environmental permit may be required from the Environment Agency. Information about environmental permitting is available on the .gov.uk website:
<https://www.gov.uk/topic/environmental-management/environmental-permits>.

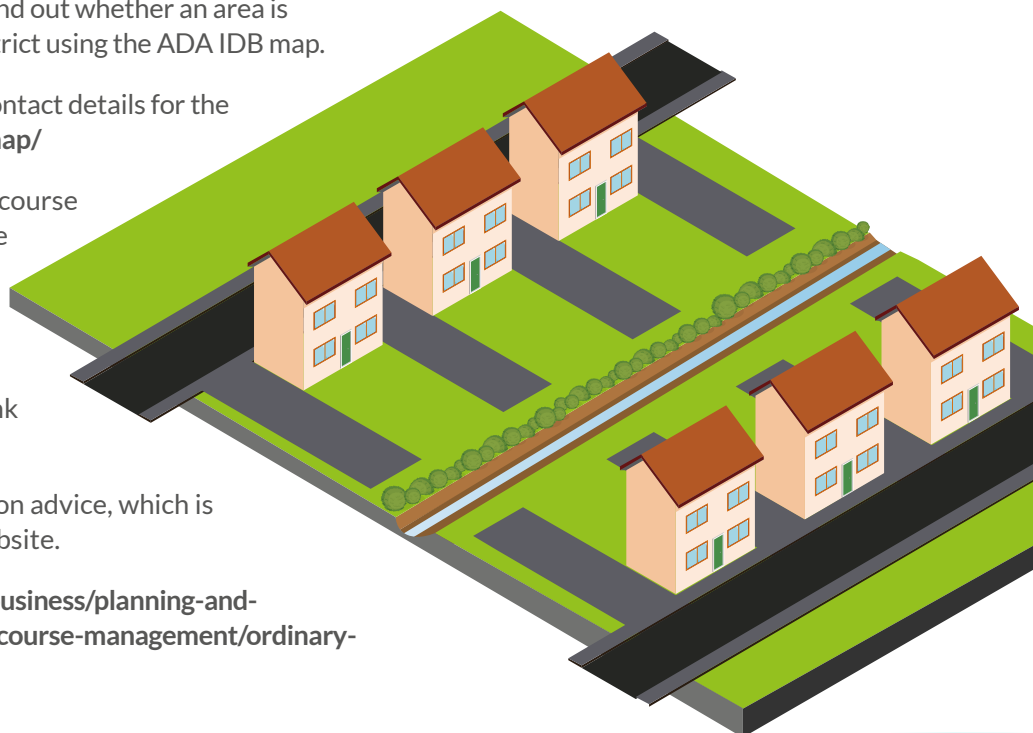
For works within an Internal Drainage Board district, consent may be required from the board. You can find out whether an area is within an Internal Drainage Board district using the ADA IDB map.

Click on the district area to find the contact details for the board: <https://www.ada.org.uk/idb-map/>

If the works are on an ordinary watercourse that is not within an Internal Drainage Board district, consent may be required from Cambridgeshire County Council. This is a charged service (£50 per structure) and can be applied for on our website – see link below.

Please note we do offer pre-application advice, which is also available for purchase on our website.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/flood-and-water/watercourse-management/ordinary-watercourse-consent>



Biodiversity

The Association of Drainage Authorities' have several guidance documents on watercourse maintenance and biodiversity on their website here: <https://www.ada.org.uk/knowledge/environment/>

Additionally, if you and your community are interested in environmental volunteering, the Open Spaces Forum from the Strategic Parks and Greenspace Project¹ may be of interest, and is available to view by this link <https://cambsfutureparks.org.uk/community/>

The Strategic Parks and Greenspace Project¹ also has a list of organisations that offer positions in environmental volunteering opportunities

<https://cambsfutureparks.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/volunteer-network-resource-sheet.pdf>

Furthermore, Cambridgeshire Conservation Forum has many conservation organisations as members, with links to all their respective websites, available here:

<https://www.cambridgeconservationforum.org.uk/membership/member-organisations/>



Historic Environment

Historic England has a register of nationally protected historic buildings and sites - listed buildings, scheduled monuments, protected wrecks, registered parks and gardens, and battlefields.

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/>

For more information about the historic environment, please see the "Archaeology" section of the Cambridgeshire County Council website: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/archaeology>



Climate Change

Information on climate change in Cambridgeshire is available on the Climate Change, Energy and Environment section of the Cambridgeshire County Council website: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/climate-change-energy-and-environment>

Climate change allowances for flood risk assessments are available to view here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-assessments-climate-change-allowances>

Litter and Fly Tipping

It is not uncommon for flooding and drainage issues to arise from excessive littering and fly tipping or illegal waste dumping. This can also attract pests and there are additional impacts on water quality, biodiversity and of course the amenity benefits of living near water may reduce.

Dumping of vegetation, such as hedge trimmings or grass clippings is classified as illegal waste dumping. Vegetation can obstruct the light in a watercourse, and strips the water of oxygen, which is damaging for any resident fish and other wildlife.

1. The Strategic Parks and Greenspace project is a programme created as a legacy of the Cambridgeshire Future Parks Accelerator Project

It is much safer for yourself and the environment, to dispose of waste in the following ways:

- Composting organic waste for re-use on your garden or land.
- Community litter picks
- Local Authority bin collection
- At your local waste recycling centre
- Via your local bulky waste collection service (either by your local authority or private)

Lower tier authorities are responsible for bin and waste collection. In Cambridgeshire these are district councils¹. You can report littering or fly tipping incidents to them, and at some authorities you can request a new community litter bin, a street clean, or the collection of bulky waste.

Additional advice and guidance on litter and fly tipping is available from Keep Britain Tidy <https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/>

Waste Collection and Reporting Fly tipping

Information on Waste collection and fly tipping for each lower tier authority is as follows:

Lower Tier Authority	Waste collection and street care	Fly tipping
Fenland District Council	https://fenland.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling	https://www.fenland.gov.uk/flytipping
East Cambridgeshire District Council	https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/east-cambs-street-scene/waste-collections-and-street-cleansing	https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/east-cambs-street-scene/fly-tipping
Huntingdonshire District Council	https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins-waste/?more=true	https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/environmental-issues/fly-tipping/
South Cambridgeshire District Council	https://www.scambs.gov.uk/recycling-and-bins/keeping-your-community-clean/street-care-and-cleaning/	
Cambridge City Council	https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/street-and-park-maintenance	

1. The district council for Cambridge is Cambridge City Council, however Ely City Council is a parish/town council and falls within East Cambridgeshire District Council.



If you cannot report fly tipping to your district council, you can also report fly tipping or illegal waste dumping in or near a watercourse to the Environment Agency online at: <https://www.gov.uk/report-flytipping>

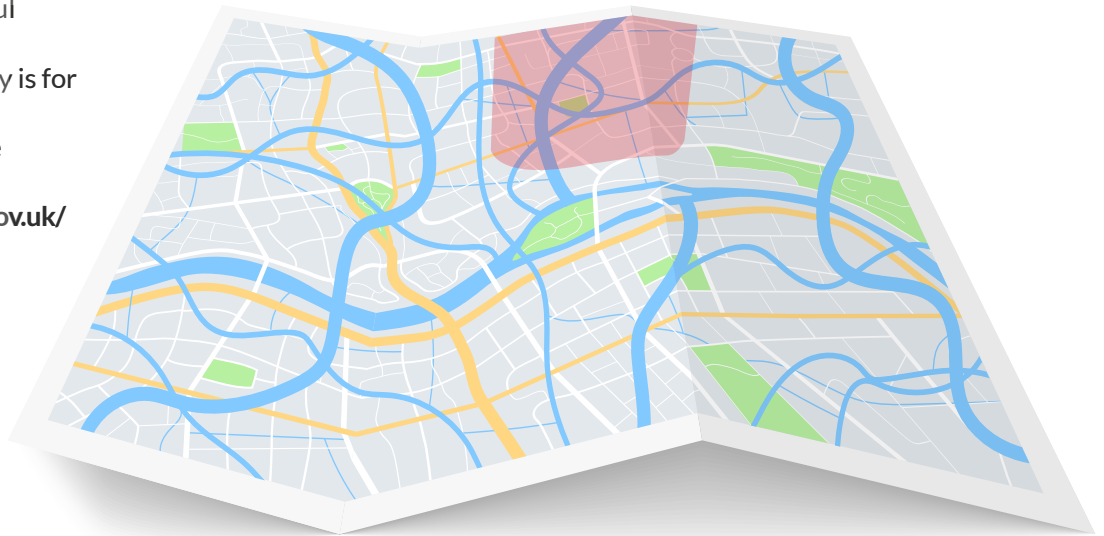
Or alternatively call 03708 506 506 between 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday, or outside of these hours, the environment incident hotline is 0800 80 70 60



My Cambridgeshire

You can find out lots of useful information, such as what the lower tier authority is for your area, using “My Cambridgeshire” online mapping available at: <https://my.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/>

To find your lower tier authority, open the “Council and Democracy” Category and check the “Districts” layer, then search for the address concerned and click the map over the location of the address.



Geology

It is important to know the ground conditions you will be working with before starting maintenance or other works to a watercourse or water body. British Geological Survey have a free online mapping software called GeoIndex, which is available to view at: <https://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/home.html>.

The main data sets of concern are Superficial Deposits (which are the top layer of geology) and Bedrock (which are the lower layer). Not all locations have superficial deposits, but everywhere has bedrock. To view this data, click “Add data” and then click the green plus sign for “Bedrock Geology 1:50,000” and “Superficial Deposits 1:50,000”. Then zoom to your desired location. The data is only visible up to a scale of 1:50,000m, however this is usually sufficient for local level works.



Highway and Public Right of Way Implications

If a road or pavement is likely to be impacted by any maintenance works then permission should be sought from Cambridgeshire Highways via a temporary traffic regulation order, so that appropriate signage and diversions may be arranged.

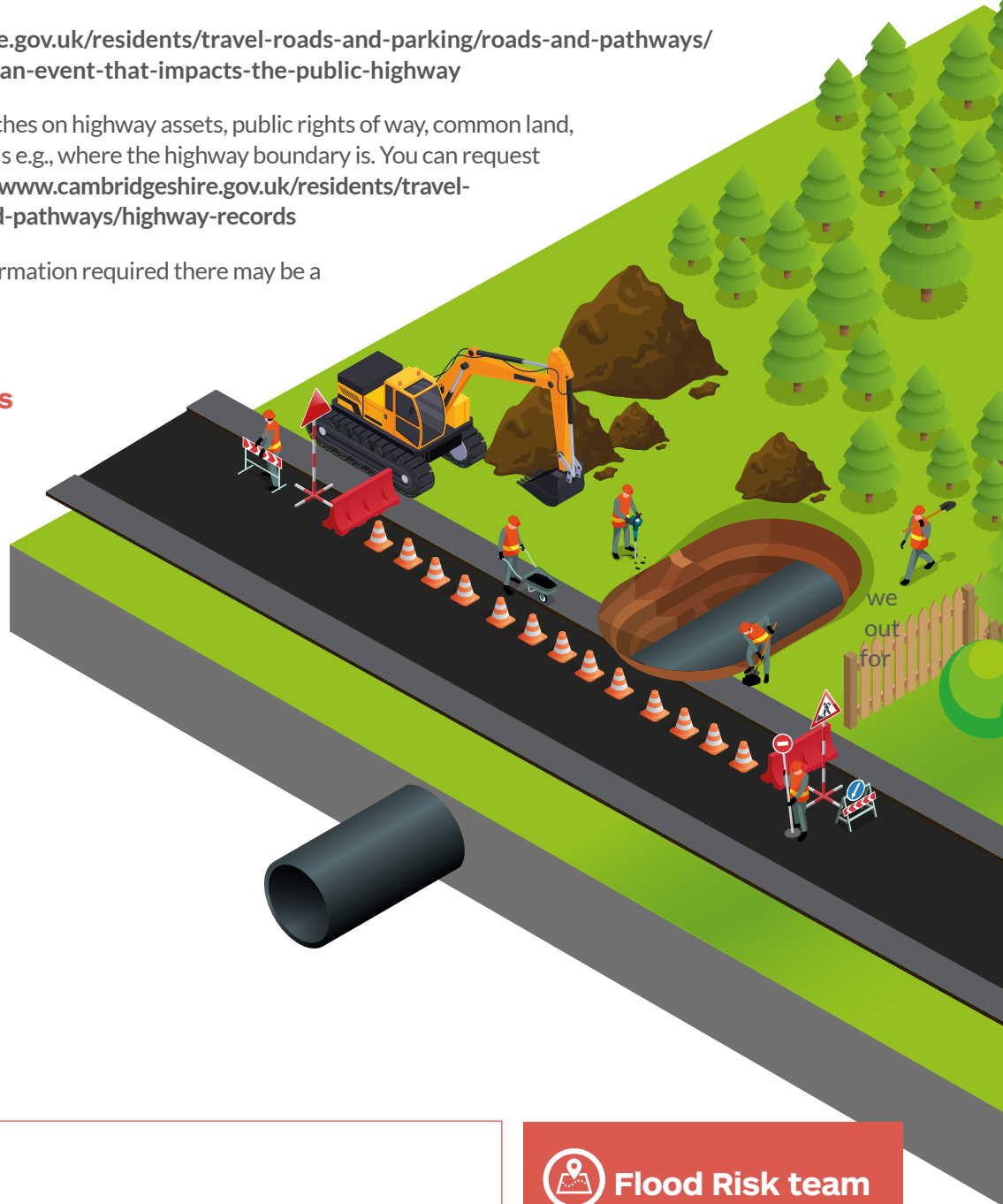
<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/highway-events/organising-an-event-that-impacts-the-public-highway>

You may wish to request searches on highway assets, public rights of way, common land, and town/village green records e.g., where the highway boundary is. You can request this information here: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/highway-records>

Depending on the type of information required there may be a charge for highway searches

Utilities Searches

If undertaking particularly intrusive works that penetrate below the ground surface or are likely to affect any pipe bridges, we recommend you carry out utilities searches advice and guidance on easements.



Contact us

If you require assistance accessing any data or information discussed above, have a query, or would like more information about a topic or relating to your site, please do not hesitate to contact us at:

floodandwater@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or Call 0345 045 5200 between 9am-5pm Monday to Friday, ask for a member of the Flood Risk team.

Flood Risk team

New Shire Hall
Box ALC2619
Emery Crescent
Enterprise Campus
Alconbury Weald
PE28 4YE

