



Advice on Fallen Trees in the River

The River Waveney Trust (RWT) is working in collaboration with the Environment Agency (EA) to manage and secure naturally fallen trees within the river channel adjacent to the bank. We can offer funding and staff time to ensure the tree left in-situ does not impact canoe access and is adequately secured to prevent movement downstream.



The EA continues to assess the impact that fallen trees have on the conveyance of water along the watercourse. If there is genuine flood risk to properties (i.e. homes and businesses with a postcode) then fallen trees and branches are removed from the river channel. In other circumstances they may advise a riparian owner about the potential water quality and wildlife habitat benefits from leaving wood in the channel. Further information on this project and riparian ownership can be found here: www.riverwaveneytrust.org/canoe-access-and-diversity/ and www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse

Above a fallen tree blocking the entire width of the channel, preventing passage downstream. This would qualify for intervention under The River Waveney Trust's Canoe access and biodiversity project.

**For free help & advice on fallen trees
in the River Waveney email
katie@riverwaveneytrust.org or call 07810 214 831**

Why We Want Trees in the River Waveney



Over centuries trees have been cleared from East Anglian rivers, often leaving the banks and channel free of both living and fallen trees. Rivers have also been widened, straightened and deepened, negatively impacting on their natural functioning and wildlife value. Trees that have fallen into the river channel are now known to be a vital part of a natural river system.



Many river restoration projects involve adding wood to rivers. Our approach only requires a tree to fall and remain within the water with an outlay to the landowner of £0. If needed, our team can secure trees in place for free.

The River Bure at Blickling, river restoration and habitat creation resulting from the retention of in-channel wood

The benefits of leaving a fallen tree in the river include:

- Oxygenation of the water
- Habitats for fish, invertebrates and plants
- Kickstarting the restoration of structural features such as, berms, meanders, plunge pools, glides and riffles.
- Collection of polluting silt and cleaning of gravels needed for fish spawning
- An increase in floodwater storage upstream
- A reduction in peak flood flow downstream

Green Recovery Challenge Fund

 Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

The
National Lottery
Heritage Fund

 Environment
Agency

 NATURAL
ENGLAND

ESSEX & SUFFOLK
WATER *living water*