

River Thames lock closures

Investment Programme

October 2018 to March 2019



Dear boater,

The Environment Agency is investing £2.4 million this winter, as part of its annual programme of essential works to maintain key navigation structures along the non-tidal length of the nationally important and globally iconic River Thames.

This investment is needed to replace or keep maintained 45 River Thames locks, their associated structures and towpath bridges, in reliable condition for the continued safe enjoyment by boaters and all visitors.

The River Thames flows through the 45 lock sites from its source point just above Lechlade, Gloucestershire via Oxford, Reading, Maidenhead and Windsor, onwards past Hampton Court to Teddington Lock.

Listed below are the locks that will be closed during the 2018 to 2019 investment programme. The locks will be closed from the first date listed and will re-open on the day after the final date.

Dates	Location	Work being carried out	Canoe portage with care during closure
29 October 2018 to 31 January 2019	Molesey Lock	Replacing the timber sheeting on the face of each lock gate.	Yes, but this may be restricted at times
29 October 2018 to 15 March 2019 (Passage may be possible from February 2019)	Caversham Lock	Refurbishing the lock chamber's concrete walls and timber edging. Replacing the wet boat shed roller shutter doors upstream of the lock.	Yes, but access track may be affected by construction traffic
29 October 2018 to 15 March 2019	Teddington Lock (Launch)	Refurbishing the lock chamber concrete walls and replacing the lock side rubbing timbers and bollards.	No
1 November 2018 to 15 November 2018	Cookham Lock	Refurbishing the concrete sill of the tail lock gates.	Yes
1 December 2018 to 1 March 2019	Rushey Lock	Replacing the timber sheeting on the face of each lock gate.	Yes, but this may be restricted at times

Other major works

We plan to carry out other major works on the River Thames during 2018 to 2019. These works will not affect your passage through the locks. Please see below for details:

All locks - carrying out a building survey of all our lock offices to assess their condition and identify where improvements can be made.

Various locks - upgrading the lock control system at approximately seven locks across the lower Thames to make it easier for river users to operate the lock under 'Public Power'.

Various sites - investing in improved site security at various sites where anti-social behaviour is causing a disruption to river users.

Various towpath bridges - repairing some of the Environment Agency-owned upper Thames towpath bridges to maintain the continuity of the Thames path.

Temple towpath bridge - refurbishing the bridge approaches on both sides of the bridge to improve drainage and reduce safety risks to users.

Grafton Lock - bank protection works to the island immediately downstream of the tail lock gates, where erosion has been identified.

Pinkhill Lock - refurbishing the mooring platform on Pinkhill Lock island (lock cut side) to improve access and safety for river users.

Kings Lock - a structural / condition survey of the lock chamber and associated structures. The results of this survey will inform our future investment programmes.

Culham Lock - bank protection works at the tail layby downstream of the Culham Road bridge.

Day's Lock - new gates being constructed in our operational depot in preparation for the replacement of the existing four gates.

Whitchurch Lock - a structural / condition survey of the lock chamber and associated structures. The results of this survey will inform our future investment programmes.

Mapledurham Lock - installing an additional rubbing timber on the tail layby to improve accessibility for river users.

Blake's Lock - installing new moorings on the weir stream side of the island, accessible from the island.

Sunbury Island - installing new moorings on the weir stream side of the island, accessible from the island and with associated improved security.

Keep up to date

We send our investment programme to you as early as possible to help you plan your cruising over the winter. However, this programme is subject to change – for the most up-to-date version, please see GOV.UK [River Thames closures and restrictions page](#) where you will also find the information displayed on a map.

We also send email updates on River Thames closures and restrictions, to subscribe to this service email riverthames@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Barry Russell

Harbour Master

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