



# ANGLING SAFETY CODE



## Stop and Think, Spot the Dangers



**Check the weather forecast** and tide times if appropriate.



**Check safe access and exit points** from the water and observe safety signage.



**Be aware of your surroundings**; look out for overhead power lines, pylons, weirs, sluice gates, strong currents, slippery or undercut banks etc. and also other water users, particularly powered craft.



**Never fish in an electrical storm**, and be aware of fast rising river levels via hydrodams.



Unless fly-fishing, **select a safe spot back from the water's edge**.



If fishing from a boat, **avoid standing up and always wear a life jacket**.



**Alcohol consumption can significantly increase the risks in and around water.**

## Wading



**Wear a life jacket when wading**; if you end up unconscious in the water, a life jacket can turn you face up.



**Wear a wading belt** which can slow down the flow of water into your waders and enable an easier exit from the water.



Consider using a **wading staff to assist with stability** and identifying underwater hazards.



**Take it slow when entering the water** and identify a safe exit route.



**Shuffle your feet in the water rather than lifting them**; maintaining contact with the bottom can increase your stability.



## Stay Together, Stay Close

- We recommend fishing with a friend and observing each other's safety.
- Always tell someone on land where you're going and when you'll be back, and carry a means of calling for help – keep it in a waterproof pouch on your person.

If you fall into the water unexpectedly:

- Float on your back with arms and legs extended, until you feel calm and can control your breathing.
- Call for help or swim to safety.
- If wearing waders, follow the same advice as above and note: a wading belt will restrict the flow of water into your waders and reduce additional weight on your legs.



## In an Emergency, Call 999

- If you see someone in trouble, do not enter the water.
- Call 999 or 112.
- Look for a throw line, life ring or anything that floats to help the person in the water whilst you await the arrival of emergency services and encourage them to float.