

# Tree maintenance work

## What you might see

You may see our Environment Agency teams, or contractors on our behalf, out and about maintaining trees around watercourses and flood risk management assets. They could be removing low hanging or loose branches or roots that could obstruct the flow of water.

The Environment Agency bids for public funding every year to carry out this maintenance and we use our permissive powers to deliver the works on or near Main River, where it will reduce the risk of flooding. On other watercourses, the landowner will be responsible for maintenance of trees on their land.



## What we are doing and why

We carry out tree and bush work over the winter months. This involves cutting back tree branches or bushes that impact on the flow of the water or are likely to fall into the watercourse and cause a blockage, increasing flood risk. We also remove any felled trees from the river where there is cause for concern.



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## How we are supporting wildlife and the environment

Whilst our priority is to protect people and property from flooding, we also have a duty to protect the environment. Our work only takes place at suitable times during the year to avoid any disruption to nesting birds. Where we have removed branches and tree trunks from the river or banks, we leave them in the nearby area to provide habitat for wildlife. Potential bat roosts are also identified and worked around.



## For more information or to contact us

**Call:** 03708 506 506

**Email:** [EMDenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:EMDenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk)

**Incident hotline:** 0800 80 70 60

Please use this number, which is open 24 hours a day, to report incidents such as flooding, blockages, unusual flow of water, damaged flood defences or pollution.

To find out more about our maintenance activities, please visit [consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/east-midlands/flood-risk-management](https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/east-midlands/flood-risk-management) or scan the QR code.



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