

Adverse weather advice

No one can deny that our weather patterns are changing and recent history has shown we are likely to see more extremes of weather in the future, be it heatwaves, cold snaps, heavy rain or strong winds. All of which can make fishing challenging, and at times, potentially risky unless precautions are taken.

As such we think it only appropriate we should offer some advice when venturing out on RDAA venues.

Heatwaves

During hot dry periods try to avoid the midday heat and fish early or late and ensure you take plenty of fluids with you. Stay hydrated, it's amazing how dehydrated you can become just sitting still. Try and find some shade and don't forget your sunscreen.

Cold Snaps

During cold periods, Wrap up warm. Don't forget, layers are more affective than one thick coat. Perhaps look at investing in some of the excellent heated clothing available now. Take a hot drink and some food. Try and stay mobile and be careful when walking on frozen ground. On no account should you walk out on the ice.

Flood Conditions

After and during wet weather periods the banks and swims will be slippery, if not flooded. Take extra care when traversing flooded

footpaths, particularly on our river venues. Wearing appropriate footwear is a must. Slip on crampons are a sensible addition to your tackle bag and provide extra grip on muddy banks. A dog spike and a rope can be a great advantage in getting up a steep bank in these conditions but DO NOT, under any circumstances,' tie yourself off 'to a tree.

Banks can collapse or wash away at anytime. You may think you know a venue but, what was there yesterday may not be there today so take a proper wading staff and walk carefully when close to the water.

High Winds

Storms and extreme winds can at times lead to trees collapsing and large branches falling. Try to avoid fishing beneath trees in these conditions. Ensure you look up to establish the risk of fishing under any particular tree. And bear in mind that even trees that appear healthy can succumb to the wind. So, if in doubt choose another swim.

Our final piece of advice to all our members is.....

If you are in any doubt as to whether you think it safe to go fishing... then don't. Just stay away, the fish will still be there tomorrow and no fish is worth risking your life for!

RDAA December 2024