

DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COUNCIL

DUMFRIES COMMON GOOD FISHING REGULATIONS 2024

1. Valid tickets give permission to fish with rod and line on waters controlled by Dumfries and Galloway Council (the council) in compliance with the following rules and regulations and the law (please see map for boundaries). The fishing season opens on 25th February. The salmon season ends on 30th November.
2. The council reserves the right to close any/all stretch of fishing waters by erection of an appropriately worded notice.
3. Fishing may be restricted in line with public health advice at short notice.
4. In line with Scottish government conservation assessment, the Rivers Nith and Cairn are mandatory catch and release for all salmon. One sea trout or herling may be retained per day provided that it is not under 10 inches in length or over 3 lbs in weight. All sea trout and herling caught after the 6 October must be returned. All rainbow trout must be killed.
5. When fly-fishing, no lead lines or leaded hook are permissible. When using Rapala type lures the maximum length should not be greater than 90mm with no more than two treble hooks attached. The treble hooks should be no greater than size 4. When fishing with Rapala type lures no additional weight shall be allowed to be fixed to the line.
6. Bait fishing is permitted from 15th March onwards one hook shall be used.
7. Any water bailiff is authorised to forbid the use of any hook or tackle considered unsuitable and impound a ticket for unsporting or illegal practice.
8. Float fishing is not permitted.
9. All pools should be fished in rotation, with anglers moving one metre downstream between casts.
10. Fishing during the hours of darkness is not permitted until after 1 April.
11. All ticketholders **must** make statutory return of fish data by the end of the fishing season using the form, or online at www.dumgal.gov.uk. Failure to return fishing data (including NIL returns) may lead to a fine or declining your application in future years. To find the online form access www.dumgal.gov.uk and search under "fishing in Dumfries" thereafter follow the instructions.
12. Fish, fishing tackle, fishing ticket and identity card must be shown to any police officer, council official or water bailiff when requested. Identification and tickets (including digital) must be carried at all times when fishing.
13. Unsporting behaviour or foul/abusive language will be considered as a breach of regulations.
14. The use of natural prawns and shrimps (whether fresh or preserved dyed or natural colour) and any part thereof including any artificial guise of the same are banned as bait when fishing rod and line for salmon and sea trout in relation to the council controlled waters on both the Rivers Nith and Cairn upstream of a line drawn across the River Nith from the house situated at 28 East Riverside Drive, Dumfries and the northeast corner of Kingholm playing fields, Dumfries.
15. Fishing tickets are issued subject to compliance with the adopted Nith District Salmon Fishery Board conservation policy, Dumfries Common Good fishing regulations and other regulations made by the council from time to time, whether during the currency of the ticket or otherwise.
16. Sunday fishing for brown trout and grayling is only permissible when legal to do so and during salmon fishing season. Season ticket holders are permitted to Sunday fish with a season ticket. The Sunday fishing beat is identified separately on the fishing map.
17. After 30th November a Grayling Only Permit is available to fish for grayling on the waters controlled by the council and as identified separately on the fishing map.
18. Disqualification and penalties:

- a. Any police officer or water bailiff is authorised to impound a ticket for practices which are unsporting, in breach of these regulations or illegal. This shall have the same effect as council officer suspending the ticket. The Nith District Salmon Fishery Board shall thereafter forward a complaint in terms of section b below.
- b. Where a ticketholder is charged with a criminal offence relating to fishing or wildlife crime, and/or where two water bailiffs agree that a ticketholder has breached the regulations the Fishery Board shall inform the council within five working days of the incident. Upon receipt of a complaint a council officer shall investigate the complaint within ten working days. If the complaint is upheld by the council officer, the council officer shall issue a notification to the ticketholder concerned informing them that their ticket is suspended as at the date of that notification. The investigation of any complaints made by the Fishery Board to the council reported after the stated five working days shall be at the discretion of council officers.
- c. The notification of suspension shall inform the ticketholder that they have a right to lodge an appeal against the suspension within ten working days of the date of notification. A meeting of the Dumfries Common Good Fund Sub Committee shall be convened within 20 working days of such appeal being lodged for the purpose of considering the suspension further and deciding as to any period of disqualification or penalties. The ticketholder shall be issued with a letter informing them of the date of the appeal no later than 15 working days before the date of the appeal hearing.
- d. A suspended ticket shall not be returned to the ticketholder until the Dumfries Common Good Sub Committee considers the complaint and any appeal.
- e. At the appeal hearing the Dumfries Common Good Sub Committee shall consider the complaint and the appeal and thereafter shall either
 - i. revoke the suspension and return a proportion of the fee for that ticket, relating to the period of suspension; or
 - ii. uphold the suspension and disqualify the ticketholder; or
 - iii. continue the appeal hearing until the outcome of any related criminal prosecution is known.
- f. Disqualifications shall be in accordance with the following tariff:
 - i. A first disqualification will result in a minimum ban of the remainder of the portion of the current ticket, up to a maximum of five years.
 - ii. A second disqualification will lead to a ban for a further between five and ten years.
 - iii. All third disqualifications would lead to a ban of a further 15 years.
- g. From February 2020 there shall no longer be any ban for a period more than 15 years. Any outstanding bans for a period more than 15 years may be reconsidered, by the Dumfries Common Good Sub Committee on a recommendation to the council by the Director of the Nith District Salmon Fishery Board and the committee of the Burgh Anglers Association, following an application from any banned individual.
- h. The decision of the Dumfries Common Good Sub Committee is final. There shall be no further appeals process.

Rivers Nith and Cairn - Fishings

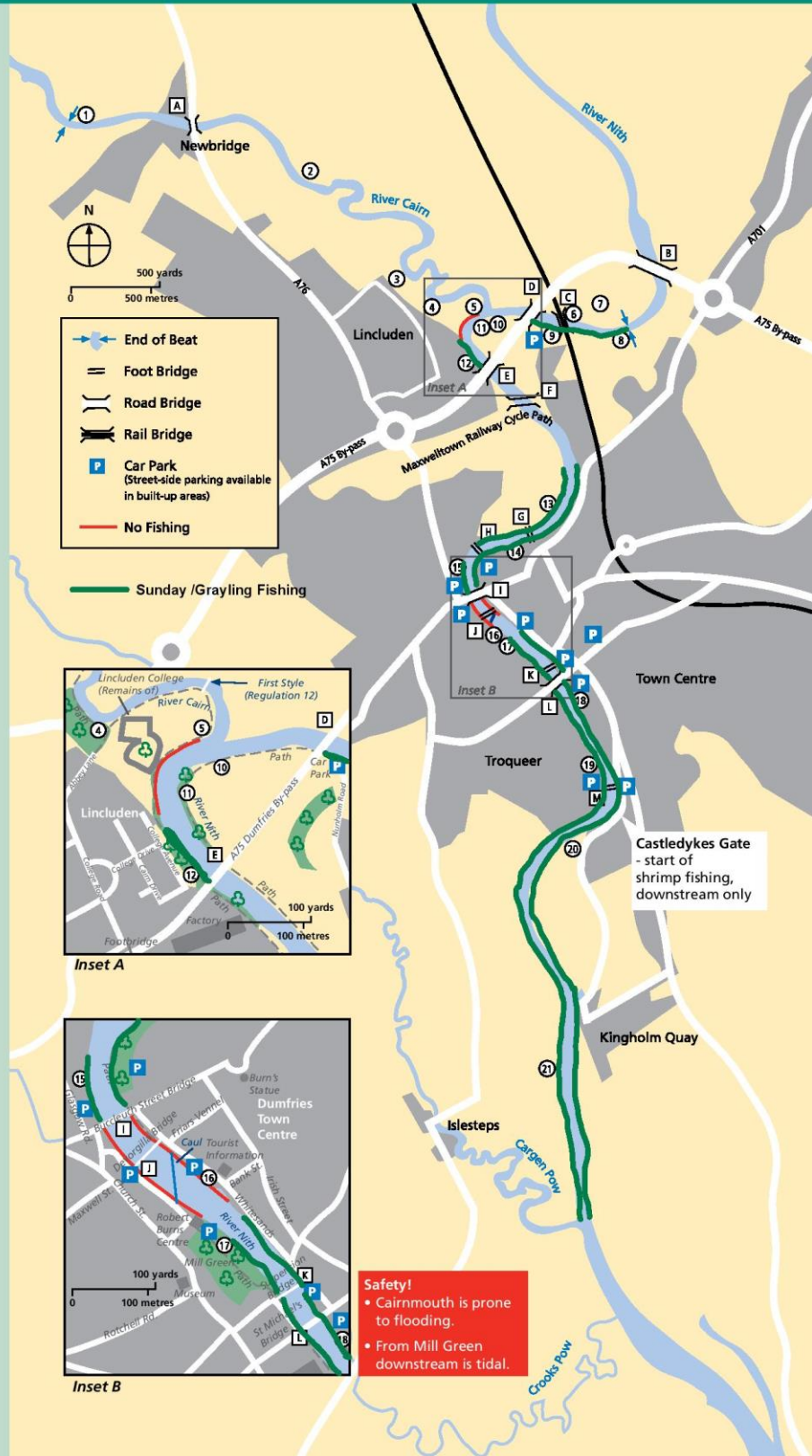
Fishing

(H - High, M - Medium, L - Low), water for good fishing

- ① Dripping Rock
- ② Jardington Wood
- ③ Sewage Pool
- ④ Minister's Pool
- ⑤ Cairnmouth (H)
Spin or worm. Access from College Avenue, Lincluden
- ⑥ Guillyhill Loaning
- ⑦ Fishfarm
- ⑧ Back of Wood (M/L)
Spin, fly or worm. Access from Nunholm Car Park
- ⑨ Nunholm Car Park
- ⑩ Red Brew Pool (M/L)
Spin, fly or worm. Access from Nunholm Car Park
- ⑪ College Pool
Spin, fly or worm. Access from Nunholm Car Park
- ⑫ Carnation Pool
Spin, fly or worm. Access from Nunholm Car Park
- ⑬ Crindy Corner
- ⑭ Big Cake Walk (H/M)
Spin, fly or worm. Access from Swimming Pool Car Park
- ⑮ Small Cake Walk (H/M)
Spin, fly or worm. Access from Swimming Pool Car Park
- ⑯ Caul Pool
- ⑰ Mill Green (H/M)
Spin, fly or worm. Access from Dock Park Car Park
- ⑱ Stank Pool
- ⑲ Castledykes Pool (M/L)
Spin, fly or worm. Access from Troqueer Car Park
- ⑳ Slay Bushes (M/L)
Spin, fly or worm and shrimp. Access from Troqueer Car Park
- ㉑ Pylon Pool / Laghall Hole

Bridges

- A Newbridge
- B By-pass Bridge (un-named)
- C Martinton
- D By-pass Bridge (un-named)
- E By-pass Bridge (un-named)
- F Nunholm
- G Academy
- H Swimming Pool
- I Buccleuch Street
- J Devorgilla
- K Suspension
- L St Michael Street
- M Kirkpatrick MacMillan



Safety!

- Cairnmouth is prone to flooding.
- From Mill Green downstream is tidal.

Useful Contacts

Water Bailiffs 07785 743663 | Police 101 / 999 | Dumfries and Galloway Council 030 33 33 3000