

CONSERVATORS OF THE RIVER CAM

www.camconservators.org.uk

Information Note For 2011/2012

1. All boats which use the River Cam between the Mill Pond and Bottisham Lock, and all backwaters, must be registered with the Conservators of the River Cam (except for motorised vessels that are already licensed with the Environment Agency in categories 30 – 39).

Cheques, together with completed application forms, can be sent to the Conservators at Baits Bite Lock, Fen Road, Milton, Cambridge CB24 6AF. Payment may also be made using your debit card or credit card.

2. **In terms of the Conservators' Byelaws, every boat is required to have its registration (identification) number exhibited on both sides of the hull so as to be clearly legible at all times at a distance of 15 metres.** This also applies to those boats licensed with the Environment Agency.

3. The following documents are required in order to comply with registration requirements:

a) **Certificate of third party insurance** – As of 01/04/2011, all boat owners (including owners of motorised craft as well as privately-owned canoes, kayaks, etc.) are required to arrange third party/public liability insurance to a minimum value of one million pounds. Corporate and commercial operators must hold public liability insurance to a minimum value of three million pounds. **A declaration of insurance cover must be completed by all boat owners** together with the annual registration application. Corporate and commercial punt operators are also required to submit proof of insurance cover in the form of an insurer's covering letter or a **certificate of public liability insurance**.

b) Owners of punts in Ownership Categories 4 – 6 (inclusive) are required to sign an undertaking to abide by the recently-amended **Punt Operators' Code of Practice** (*see the attached declaration form*). In terms of this Code of Practice, all commercial and corporate punts are required to display safety signs. These will be available, free of charge, from Scudamore's Punting Company (01223 359750). See our web site for full details of the Code of Practice.

c) A valid **Boat Safety Scheme Certificate (BSSC)** - for owners of all vessels which are fitted with mechanical propulsion, as well as vessels with an enclosed cabin which may, or may not, be fitted with cooking, heating, lighting or refrigeration appliances. A BSSC is normally valid for four years from the date of issue. {Any application to register a privately owned, outboard-engined, open vessel need not be accompanied with a BSSC provided the vessel is not carrying or fitted with cooking, heating, lighting or refrigeration appliances. A vessel that has any form of enclosed accommodation or which is decked over the greater part of the hull is NOT regarded as an open vessel for the purposes of the requirement for Boat Safety Scheme Certificates.}

d) **Personal Certificate of Compliance** - (Confirming that no BSSC is required or that no change has occurred to affect the BSSC.) from the owner of any vessel that is fitted with motorised propulsion, or cooking, heating, lighting or refrigeration appliances, when registering a boat with the Conservators of the River Cam.

4. **The category "houseboat"** is defined in the Byelaws as "*a vessel (including any power driven vessel from which the means of propulsion has been removed) which is decked or otherwise structurally covered in and which is primarily intended not as a means of transport but as a place of habitation (whether by day and night or one or the other) or as a place for accommodation or receiving persons for the purpose of shelter, recreation, entertainment, or of witnessing regattas or other events, or as club premises, or as an office or as a kitchen, pantry or store place.*"

The Conservators have stated that, where an engine is not in working order, the registration category applicable will be that applying to the length of the boat and the size of the engine, and not that of a houseboat.

5. **If you are intending to moor in Cambridge**, please look at our web site (see address above) to check the restrictions which apply for navigation purposes.

6. **If your boat is beyond economic repair**, please consult the Conservators' staff to arrange for its removal before it sinks and causes a greater problem. Otherwise, should your boat sink at its mooring or become derelict (and you fail to remove it yourself), then the full cost of its eventual removal, storage and disposal will be charged against you.

REQUEST FOR A BOAT TO BE REMOVED FROM THE RIVER, AND DESTROYED

To : The Conservators of the River Cam
Baits Bite Lock
Fen Road
Milton
Cambridge
CB24 6AF

I hereby certify that I am the owner of the boat named _____ moored at _____ Cambridge. The boat is beyond economic repair and I request you to tow it away for destruction. I have removed all contents or fittings which I consider to be of any value. In consideration of your removing this boat I hereby indemnify you and your staff from all actions, costs, claims and demands made by any third party for taking such action.

Full Name (in capitals) _____

Signature _____

Address _____

Date _____

DECLARATION BY PUNT HIRE OPERATORS, CLUBS, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

To : The Conservators of the River Cam
Baits Bite Lock
Fen Road
Milton
Cambridge
CB24 6AF

I, in my capacity as _____, representing _____ hereby confirm that:

- 1) I/ we have read and will abide by the Punt Operator's Code of Practice (as shown on the Conservators' web-site) in respect of all operations by my/our punts on the River Cam.
- 2) each/every punt has the necessary notices suitably displayed regarding loading limits and navigation rules, as required by the Conservators of the River Cam.

Full Name (in capitals) _____

Signature _____

Address _____

Date _____

