Fishing in Wandsworth Terms and Conditions 2026-2027

Failure to observe these Terms and Conditions and the Byelaws will lead to a ban from fishing on all lakes and may result in a fixed penalty notice / prosecution.

- The fishing permit can only be used by the named person and should be carried at all times whilst fishing.
- You must carry your Environment Agency Rod Licence at all times whilst fishing.
- You must show your Rod Licence and Fishing Permit when asked by authorised officers (including EA fisheries officers, Parks Police, Metropolitan Police and Enable staff).
- You must allow the authorised officers to examine anything that is necessary to check your compliance with the terms and conditions of the fishing permit.
- Traditional close season is in place at all lakes. You can only fish between 16th June 2026 and 14th March 2027 (inclusive).
- You can only fish from the designated fishing areas in Battersea Park, Tooting Commons and Wandsworth Common.
- At Battersea Park, you can only fish from 7am until 30mins after sunset.
- Help us to keep our lakes and fish healthy. Disinfect your equipment before you come to the lakes and as soon as you get home. Use an appropriate aquatic disinfectant.

Wandsworth
managed on behalf of Wandsworth Council by enable.
For happy, healthier communities. Not for profit.

How we expect you to behave:

- Unlike other fishing lakes, you do not have exclusive use of the fishing areas on Wandsworth lakes and you must be mindful of the general public and share the space politely with others at all times.
- If you are under 18 years of age, you must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times whilst fishing.
- Report any incidents or accidents to Parks Police on 07500 959442.
- It is your responsibility to report any general matters of concern, or issues about fish health to the Parks Team by phoning 020 3959 0060 or email parks@enablelc.org.
- It is your responsibility to remove all litter and discarded tackle and take it home. Do not dispose of it in the bins on site.
- It is your responsibility to immediately remove any line or tackle caught in bushes or trees. Any line or tackle beyond reach must be reported to the Parks Team on 020 3959 0060.
- If you catch a bird in your own line, please do not cut the line or reel the bird in. Call the RSPCA immediately on 0300 1234999.
- Report any wildlife emergency or welfare concerns to the RSPCA on 0300 1234999.
- Report any concerns about illegal fishing, or fishing that is not compliant with these terms and conditions to Parks Police on 07500 959442 or to the Environment Agency on 0800807060.
- You cannot enter the water for any reason. If a fish becomes tethered or distressed please contact the Parks Police on 07500 959442.
- You cannot cut, trim, prune, damage, move or remove any trees, plants or water plants.
- You cannot allow any dogs in your care to enter the water.
- You cannot have fires, BBQ, or use camping gas stoves or any other naked flame.
- You cannot use, or be under the influence of, alcohol or illegal substances while fishing.
- Do not wash your hands or use soap or sanitiser in the water.

Fishing equipment:

- You must fish by rod and line only and you can use a maximum of 2 rods.
- Rods must not be left unattended at any time. Unattended items will be confiscated and your permit will be removed.
- Only “safe” rigs are allowed. No permanently fixed lead, no bent hooks, no long shanked curved hooks, no 360 rigs.
- Micro barbed and barbless hooks only, up to a maximum of size 4.
- Spods / spombs are permitted but must have a floating aid in the event of a loss. Please be considerate of other anglers when applying bait.
- Landing nets must be used and should be of adequate size for intended species. Minimum size landing net for carp is 42".
- Minimize the time you keep the fish out of the water.
- To ensure fish welfare, wet hands must be used while handling fish.
- Unhooking mats must be of sufficient size and thickness to prevent fish from being damaged. Fish may not be placed directly onto the bank under any circumstances.
- Fish must only be weighted in a fit for purpose and padded weigh-sling, which must be kept wet.
- All fish must be returned to the water as soon as possible after weighting – using the unhooking mat or the landing net.
- Fish welfare / care kits must be used and any concerns about fish health including signs of disease must be reported immediately to the Parks Team on 020 3959 0060.
- Umbrellas must be free standing and may not be weighted or pegged down. They may not be bigger than the fishing platform you are using and must not obstruct the footpath / lake edge.
- At Tooting and Wandsworth Commons, umbrellas may only be erected on the fishing platforms.
- For fishing umbrellas with sides, the sides must be kept rolled up at all times except in wet weather.

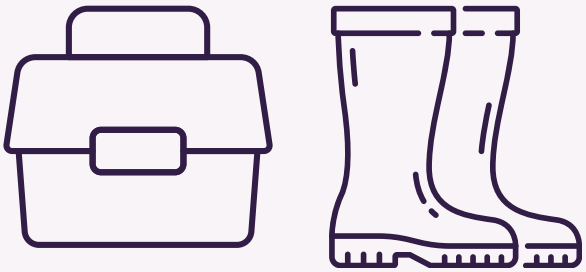
What you cannot do / cannot use:

- Do not leave your rod(s) unattended – with or without tackle.
- If fish break free, they must not be tethered by parts of the main tackle.
- Bivvy's or tents are not allowed.
- Magnet fishing is not allowed.
- Fly fishing is not allowed.
- Boats (including model boats and bait boats) are not allowed.
- Drones are not allowed.
- Plugs are not allowed.
- Spinning reels are not allowed.
- Catapults are not allowed.
- Leaders of any kind are not allowed. Tubing may be used.
- Braided reel lines are not allowed.
- Shock leaders are not allowed for fishing. They may only be used in conjunction with spod / spomb rod.
- Zig rigs are not allowed.
- Plastic baits and live baits are not allowed.
- Baits in tin cans are not allowed.
- Keep nets, keep sacks or tubes are not allowed.

Check, Clean, Dry

CHECK your gear for mud, plant material and aquatic animals after leaving the water. Remove anything and leave it at the site.

CLEAN all your equipment thoroughly as soon as you can.



DRY all your equipment for as long as possible before using it again. Do not bring wet equipment to our lakes.

Wandsworth
managed on behalf of Wandsworth Council by
enable.
For happy, healthier communities.
Not for profit.