

# Self-help action groups

## Information and knowledge exchange workshop

Saturday 9 October 2010

at Howbery Park, Wallingford OX10 8BA

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The event will include presentations from flood risk management professionals, the Environment Agency and local authorities and the Hanney's Flood Group on a range of topics from information gathering, examining options and constraints, legal rights and obligations of riparian owners to practical implementation of work.



HR Wallingford  
*Working with water*



Environment  
Agency

## INTRODUCTION

A significant number of flood self-help groups have started up in recent years, particularly in the wake of the Summer 2007 floods. And with David Cameron's "Big Society" emphasis, the idea of empowering people at the local level has risen to the top of the political agenda. This has prompted interest and support for the self-help groups from the Environment Agency and local government. The Environment Agency and HR Wallingford now wish to encourage the groups further by holding this free Saturday morning training and information exchange event for self-help group representatives.

The event will include presentations from flood risk management professionals, the Environment Agency and local authorities and the Hanneys Flood Group on a range of topics from information gathering, examining options and constraints, legal rights and obligations of riparian owners to practical implementation of work. There will be plenty of time to ask questions and for open discussion and networking. Morning refreshments and lunch are being provided to attendees courtesy of the Environment Agency.

If the event is successful, it is possible that it might become a regular occasion allowing ongoing learning, networking between groups and exchange of ideas.

## EVENT HOURS

Registration for this half day event will open at 09:00, and the meeting will close by 13:00. This will be followed by a buffet lunch.

We reserve the right to make changes to the programme content at any time.

## PROGRAMME

**09:00      Registration opens, refreshments**

**09:30      Welcome and introduction**

Chair – Jonathan Simm, HR Wallingford TBC

**09:40      Information collection**

Hydrology team lead, Environment Agency TBC  
Steven Wade, HR Wallingford TBC

What information is needed to understand the problem. Finding out what kinds of information is available on your catchment? What is being measured and by whom? How can you get access to this information? What else can your group do?

**10:20      Examining the options and understanding the constraints**

Keith Lead (engineering) with Alison Footer (or other conservation officer), Environment Agency.

How can your groups find out what options are available for solving flooding problems in your community? Which of these can you tackle yourselves? How do you get permission to do the work?

**11:00      Refreshments**

**11:30      Legal rights and obligations of riparian owners**

Pennie Yorath, Environment Agency

What is a riparian owner? What are their rights and obligations? What kinds of work can a riparian owner do to reduce flood risk? How does this relate to the role of the EA, County Council Highways, Local council, Parish council, Thames Water.

**12:10      Implementation**

Stewart Scott, Hanneys Flood Group  
Peter Dela, Vale of White Horse DC

Obtaining permission, estimating costs, sources of funds, cash flow, planning, method statements & risk assessments, management, monitoring and maintenance.

**12:50      Wrap-up discussion**

Chair – Jonathan Simm, HR Wallingford

**13:00      Buffet lunch**

# SELF-HELP FLOOD ACTION GROUPS

## VENUE

The meeting will be held at HR Wallingford's site at Howbery Park in Wallingford, Oxfordshire, midway between Reading and Oxford. The 36 hectare science park site is bounded by the River Thames. Full details of how to get to Howbery Park can be found on our events website <http://events.hrwallingford.co.uk>.

## REGISTRATION

To register, please return a completed form to  
**Fleur Stevenson, HR Wallingford, Howbery Park,  
Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 8BA.**

Although there is no charge for attending the event, an attendance deposit of £10 per participant is required in the form of a cheque. The cheque will be handed back to attendees when they arrive on the morning of the event. If registered attendees fail to attend the meeting, the cheque will be cashed to cover catering costs.

Cancellations must be received five days prior to the start of the event. Name substitutions can be made at any time - contact Fleur Stevenson at [training@hrwallingford.co.uk](mailto:training@hrwallingford.co.uk), tel 01491 835381.

## ABOUT HR WALLINGFORD

HR Wallingford is an independent company that carries out research and consultancy in civil engineering hydraulics and the water environment. For 60 years, HR Wallingford has been leading the study of rivers, evolving under both natural and man-made influences, in the UK and throughout the world. The knowledge gained has enabled us to provide expert, technical advice to assist the professionals responsible for managing and improving conditions in individual river reaches or entire catchments. Our clients include international, national and local governments, environmental agencies, civil engineering consultants, planners and private companies.

## REGISTRATION

*PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS*

Name of flood group \_\_\_\_\_

Attendee name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail\* \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date / / \_\_\_\_\_

\* REQUIRED. Further information on the event will be sent by email

## DEPOSIT

**Please enclose a £10 attendance deposit  
(by cheque only please, in pounds  
sterling payable to HR Wallingford).**

Your deposit will be returned to you on the day of the event. You cheque will be cashed to cover catering costs if you cancel within five days of start of the event or you do not attend on the day.

Your name and address will be added to our Company Database and will be used to mail details of other HR Wallingford Group events and publications.

Please tick the box if you do not want to receive this information.

We DO NOT pass this information to any other company outside the HR Wallingford Group.

Please return the completed form to  
**FLEUR STEVENSON, HR Wallingford, Howbery Park,  
Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 8BA, United Kingdom**  
Fax +44 (0)1491 825483, email [training@hrwallingford.co.uk](mailto:training@hrwallingford.co.uk)

# Self-help action groups

# HR Wallingford's Events Programme

**9 October 2010**

at  
Howbery Park, Wallingford, UK

The event will include presentations from flood risk management professionals, the Environment Agency and local authorities and the Hanney's Flood Group on a range of topics from information gathering, examining options and constraints, legal rights and obligations of riparian owners to practical implementation of work.



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**2010**

**Introduction to River Hydrology & Hydraulics**

**2-3 November**

Two-day training course

**Introduction to Flood Risk Analysis & Management**

**4-5 November**

Two-day training course

**2011**

**18th Annual Armourstone Users Group Meeting**

**3 February**

One-day meeting

**Introduction to River Hydrology & Hydraulics**

**15-16 February**

Two-day training course

**Introduction to Flood Risk Analysis & Management**

**17-18 February**

Two-day training course

## Contact

**Fleur Stevenson:** Bookings and general enquiries.

**Jackie Harrop:** Development of seminars, courses and conferences.

The events programme is subject to change. Please contact the Events Organiser for the latest details, or visit our web site at [events.hrwallingford.co.uk](http://events.hrwallingford.co.uk)

