

OLNEY TOWN COUNCIL



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Warning and advice for river users

The river is contaminated with high levels of electro-conductivity and pollutants which simply shouldn't be there, mainly from run off and sewerage.

An additional important consideration for water users is that with much lower river levels, jumping into rivers becomes far more dangerous as the riverbed, which can contain old rocks, metal and debris is closer to the surface.

OTC strongly advise 'NOT' to use the river.

 **Key advice if you do ignore warnings -**

1. If you have any cuts or grazes do not go into the river this is the primary means of transmitting E-coli or Weil's disease (a severe and life-threatening form of leptospirosis).
2. Saying "I am not drinking it" is no protection against the above issues.
3. Do not jump into any river as the water is very low and you have no idea as to what has been deposited in the last few days. (Heavy rubble and broken shopping trolleys have been known to lay on the riverbed). In popular spots its common for people to throw bottles and cans in the river.
4. Getting cut in the river from jumping in means you are immediately susceptible to both E-coli & Weil's disease.

 Please be aware of what you are dealing with in a river and note there are **NO** Environment Agency approved safe water bathing places in Olney.

 The advice from Olney Town Council and Environmental Agency is clear and warning notices are displayed.

If you choose to ignore them, you are entering the river at your own risk.