

Evacuation

It you need to evacuate the area you may be informed in one of the following ways:

- By officials knocking on your door.
- By vehicle-mounted loudspeakers.
- By local radio or television stations.

You may choose to evacuate using your own vehicle, or move to one of two evacuee assembly points.

Evacuee Assembly Points

The emergency services may tell you to go to a designated assembly point. Transport will be provided from the assembly points to an Emergency Rest Centre. People running Emergency Rest Centres are trained to give you support and advice. They will help you through the emergency and prepare you for what to do afterwards.

Evacuation route

For those evacuating in their own vehicles always follow the advice and guidance of the emergency services. Generally:

- Prior to any dam breach head east towards Crook on the A689.
- Following a dam breach head west on the A689 towards Stanhope.



Road closure

In the event of dam emergency it is likely that a number of roads may need to be closed.

In the Wear Valley this is likely to affect:

- The A689 trunk road eastwards towards Crook.
- The Causeway river crossing and all routes on the south of the river Wear.

The railway line from Bishop Auckland to Stanhope is also likely to be affected.

Further information

For general information on reservoirs including frequently asked questions see www.environment-agency.gov.uk or contact the Environment Agency on 08708 506 506

For information specifically relating to Tunstall Reservoir call Durham County Council Civil Contingencies Unit on 01388 824030 or visit www.durham.gov.uk

Floodline 0845 988 1188

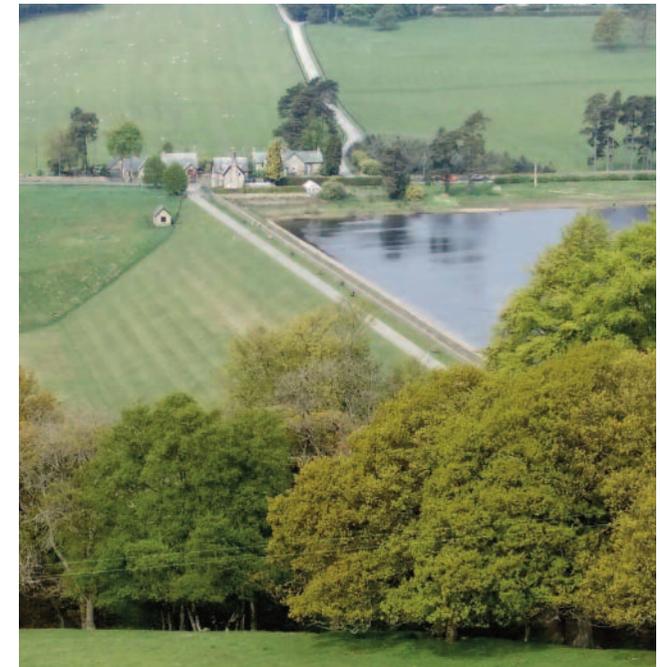
Local media

- Bishop FM 105.9 FM
- Star Radio 102.8 & 106.8 FM
- BBC Radio Tees 95.0 FM
- BBC Radio Newcastle 95.4 FM
- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/local/wear>



Tunstall Reservoir

Information for residents



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Information for residents

New legislation

Recent changes to the Reservoirs Act 1975 places a new statutory responsibility on local authorities. As a consequence, Durham County Council has a duty to prepare an off site emergency plan for Tunstall Reservoir.

The plan has been produced in conjunction with our emergency services partners, County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service, Durham Constabulary and the Environment Agency.

It is important that you know what our responsibilities are in the event of a reservoir failure but there are also things that you can do yourself to keep you and your family safe.

Reservoir failure

We would like to stress that the risk of Tunstall Reservoir failing has not increased or changed. There has been no reservoir failure in this country since the 1920's. Even so, we need to be prepared to make sure that we can respond in case of an emergency.

What to do in an emergency

- Be aware that you will need to act quickly to get you and your family to safety
- Cooperate with emergency services if they tell you to evacuate and follow their instructions. If you choose to go to a relative in another part of the county please let the emergency services know
- Make sure that neighbours are aware of the emergency and check if they need help
- Turn off gas, electricity and water supplies and lock your property when you leave
- Make sure you take essential personal items with you (see Personal Flood Kit)
- Keep listening to local radio for updates



Fire and Rescue inflatable rescue boat

Personal Flood Kit

When you are asked to evacuate please remember to take the following items with you.

- Proof of identity such as a passport, driving licence or pension card
- Essential medication, toiletries or any special dietary requirements
- Spare warm clothing
- Blankets and towels
- Baby food and baby care items if required
- Pets and pet food – small animals should be put in a pet carrier or secure, air-vented box
- Valuables such as cash, cards, cameras, mobile phone and chargers

Important

- Avoid walking or driving through flood water. 6 inches (15 centimetres) of moving water can knock you off your feet or disable a car.
- Keep children and vulnerable people away from flood water.
- Remain calm and act quickly.
- Call 999 if you are in danger.