

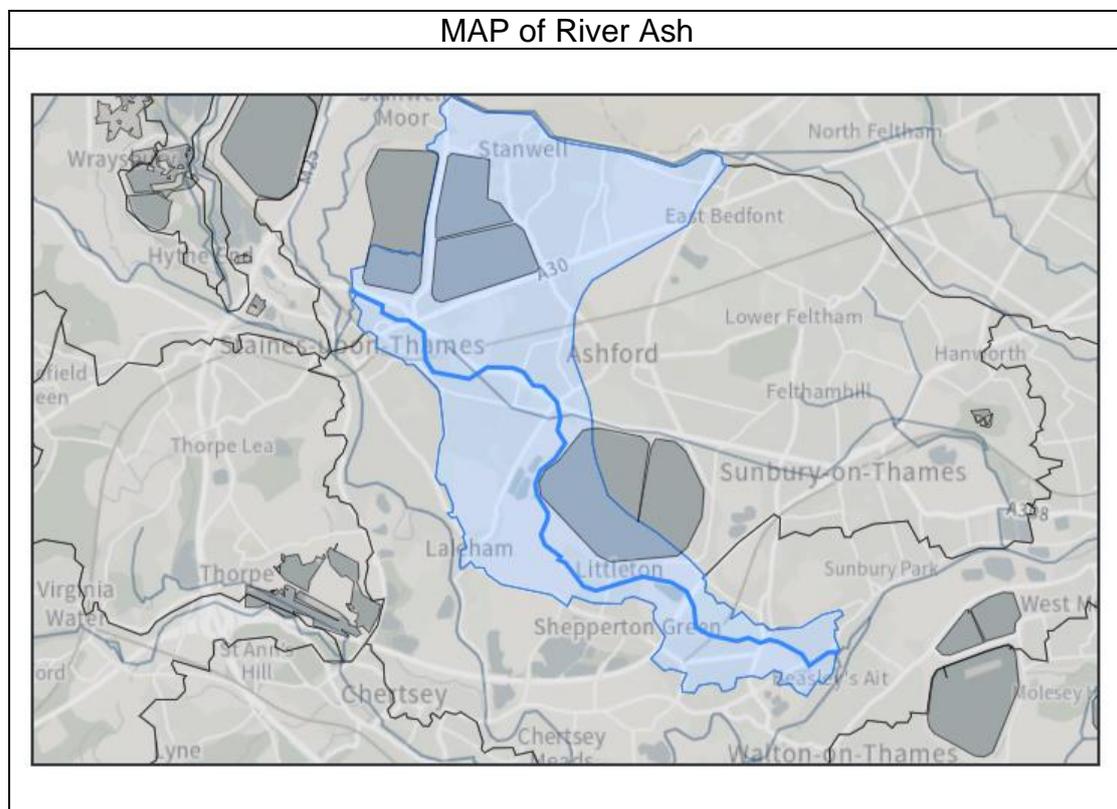
River Ash

Background information:

The Ash is a 10km (6.2mile) river that flows from the river Colne south of Staines moor, flows south of the Staines bypass and joins the River Thames. It is a very stable, sluiced gate watercourse. The water levels are consistently around 0.5m throughout the course, depending upon the width of the channel.

The Ash is controlled by a sluice gate at its source from the river Colne. Therefore, it is not a 'natural' watercourse.

There are multiple points along the ash where water is discharged into the ash.



SBC Riparian ownership:

SBC Riparian Ownership	Inspection/responsibility	Notes
Sunbury golf course, Shepperton	Seasonal Inspection	SBC is to conduct a cut in the late spring/early summer annually along the stretch of the Ash from the M3 to the railway.

Leacroft	In these areas, the Ash is reactively managed. The Environment Agency conduct inspections along the course, and if any issues relating to our land will notify us. There is no scheduled regular work.
Shortwood Common (South)	
Woodthorpe Road Land (by Community Centre)	
Fordbridge Park	
Land by White House Depot	
Studios Walk	
Gaston Bridge Road Open Space	

Updates to note:

Nutty Lane – Thames Water treatment facility outfall point.

This is consented to discharge wastewater into the Ash at a rate of 45 cubic meters over 24 hours a day. As this is a computer-controlled mechanism that discharges when water levels are lower within the reservoir to clear silt from their water treatment mechanism, it typically discharges at a rate of 40 cubic meters, for 4-5 hours a day on average.

In August of 2022, during a prolonged period of drought, this outlet began discharging for 24 hours a day for 3 weeks. This caused the water level within the Ash to rise by approx. 2-3 feet. As a result, some residents gardens began to flood where they met the ash. However, further investigation found that many residents had be constructing artificial banks/outbuildings and decking areas on the bank of the Ash without approval from the EA. This therefore meant that damages caused could have been prevented.

In July of 2023 the discharge into the Ash began causing a rise of 2-3 feet in the river level. This resulted in multiple gardens being flooded.

M3 overpass, Sunbury golf course – Discharge from motorway drainage network around marker point 27/2 into the Ash.