

# The Great Stour at Godinton

*Here at Godinton, the Great Stour flows over the sandstone and clay rocks of the Greensand Belt, but has many characteristics of a chalk river and many chalk river species.*

Invertebrates like mayflies, caddis flies, and midges provide food for brown trout, European eel, and other fish, which in turn are preyed on by egrets. The Stour looks its best in early summer, when the water crowfoot is in flower and dragonflies and damselflies abound. Lucky visitors might see a kingfisher flashing past!

## Threats to chalk rivers

Humans have affected chalk rivers everywhere. Natural meanders have been straightened to prevent flooding. Artificial structures such as weirs can prevent fish migration. And although you cannot see it, there is pollution from agricultural chemicals and development. The Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership and other organisations are working to reduce these impacts on the Great Stour.



## KEY TO SPECIES IN ILLUSTRATION

- |                      |                     |                       |                          |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Yellow flag iris   | 2 Water figwort     | 3 Water forget-me-not | 4 Water mint             | 5 Branched bur-reed |
| 6 Water crowfoot     | 7 Little egret      | 8 Kingfisher          | 9 Migrant hawk dragonfly | 10 Water vole       |
| 11 Freshwater shrimp | 12 Caddis fly larva | 13 European eel       | 14 Brown trout           | 15 Mayfly           |

Find more information and download a leaflet about the Stour Catchment from our website [www.kentishstour.org.uk](http://www.kentishstour.org.uk)



**Please help us to look after this river and its wildlife. Take litter home. Keep dogs and children out of the water. No fishing - private fishery.**