



Water Safety & Rescue Training



Maritime and
Coastguard Agency



Water safety / rescue training with Birmingham & Midland Marine Services Ltd.

Our Water Safety & Rescue training courses are DEFRA, HSE and CDM Regulations 2015 compliant. Birmingham & Midland Marine Services Ltd are an Outreach Rescue Approved Training Centre, our courses therefore certificated and audited by '[Outreach Rescue](#)'. As Corporate Partners and Accredited Trainers, we are further audited by the '[Institute of Search and Technical Rescue](#)', our Industry Professional Body.

All DEFRA compliant water safety & rescue training delivered by [BMMS Ltd](#) is run to the exacting and high standards set out in the Government paper, the 'Flood Rescue Concept of Operations' or, in the case of Commercial Boat Masters, the standards set by the Maritime & Coastguard Agency. ([gov](#)).

Commercial Vessel Water Safety Training is detailed below and is both Accredited & Audited by the [Maritime and Coastguard Agency - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

In layman's terms: (and please; if you're still not sure, call us on 01902 544329 – We do this all day and are more than happy to advise without charge!)

There are different requirements for training, depending upon the role of the person waterside:

- With no 'planned entry' to the watercourse, equipped with a lifejacket and following the guidance of a risk assessment around bodies of still water, a half-day **Water Safety Awareness course** including a lifejacket user session would 'generally' be sufficient. See **Shore-based training**. Candidates do not enter the water.
- Personnel working around moving water, particularly if liable to flooding, or, have a planned entry to moving or still water to wading depth, (non-buoyant) should be trained to deal with accidental immersions and rescues. This version of the course is known as the Water Safety & Rescue Awareness course; it is run to the DEFRA Module 1) Annex 'H' syllabus, introduced in November 2019 for non-blue-light personnel. See **1-day training courses**. Candidates do enter the water. Basic Swimming ability is required for this course. ***This is the EA basic level requirement.***





- Where companies (outside a blue-light remit) feel the need for more in-depth training for their personnel; perhaps operational staff, supervisors or indeed their Health & Safety, site survey or inspection teams, the two-day course covers searches, rescue sleds, strainer drills, higher grade water, tethered wades, in addition to the content covered above. **Note: this was the go-to choice prior to the revised DEFRA guidance issued in November 2019 – now superseded by Annex ‘H’ in ‘most instances’.**

This course was designed for Emergency Services Flood Responders rather than industry. This training gives the candidates more exposure to a higher-grade water, more experience, the skills to ‘support’ Water Rescue Technicians undertaking their role and is not advised for poor to average swimmers. See **2-day training**. Candidates do most certainly enter the water. **Generally above and beyond the requirement for non-blue-light personnel if delivered correctly to DEFRA guidance and industry standard.**

- For existing or potential Masters of vessels of up to 24m operating Passenger Operations (12+ Pax), Towing & Pushing or Workboat Operations on Category ‘A’ & ‘B’ bodies of water or un-linked bodies of water such as lakes or reservoirs under the Maritime & Coastguard Agency Boat Master Licencing Scheme; please see **MCA Ancillary Training**. No candidate entry to the water.

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1-day training courses

The one-day, DEFRA Mod 1) Water Safety / Rescue Awareness course with the Annex 'H' endorsement [Water Safety / Rescue Awareness DEFRA Module 1\) Annex 'H' Syllabus - Birmingham & Midland Marine Services](#) lasts three years and we have two course options to choose from:

Option 1) – Our bespoke and most popular course.



*Click above to watch our 1-day Training DEFRA Mod 1) course video (opens in browser). Note that the waterway in this video is an example of the **lowest water level we train in.***

Bespoke training with condensed group size (6-8 candidates) **with excellent student to instructor contact time.** Sufficient in-water 1:1 (candidate to instructor) contact time to ensure that each candidate can be tutored and appraised, coached, and signed off as competent to conduct a co-worker rescue and be **proficient at self-rescue skills.**

This variation of the Annex 'H' syllabus course can be tailored for specific user groups.

Standard training courses take place year-round in Staffordshire and Shropshire. High volume water is available at Llangollen, Wales and should you require this option, there is a surcharge to cover the off-site venue arrangements.

Recertification every three-years as long as CPD is maintained.

Course Fees: (Including hire of rescue grade aquatic PPE) Please contact the office for current course fees.

Option 2)

DEFRA Module 1), run to the Annex 'H' syllabus, covers much of the 2-day Mod) 2 course, less tethered wading rescue sled work, cowstail releases, strainer drills, and tensioned diagonals.

Also covered within our option 1) 'bespoke' version of the Annex 'H' syllabus, is include a good amount of the relevant DEFRA Mod 3) theory content, ensuring each candidate has a better understanding of the marine environment than is offered by generic water safety training providers, plus full training in rescue grade aquatic PPE, defensive & aggressive swimming, wading, self-rescue, and co-worker rescues from the bank. **This includes the hire of full rescue grade aquatic PPE.**



Our Lead Instructional Team are DEFRA Mod 3/ 4 Technician Instructors and assistant instructors are either full Mod 3 instructors or Mod 2 Flood First Responder instructors. The Team is made up of Search & Rescue, Mountain Rescue, and former Water Rescue Specialist Instructors from the Fire & Rescue

Service. All core instructional Lead personnel hold advanced medical first responder qualifications.



Medical Oxygen, defibrillator, and spinal boards & equipment is taken to the training venues in our specialist vehicles for your peace of mind.

Please check instructor competencies, which third parties audit and accredit the training being delivered and syllabus when making comparisons between training providers.

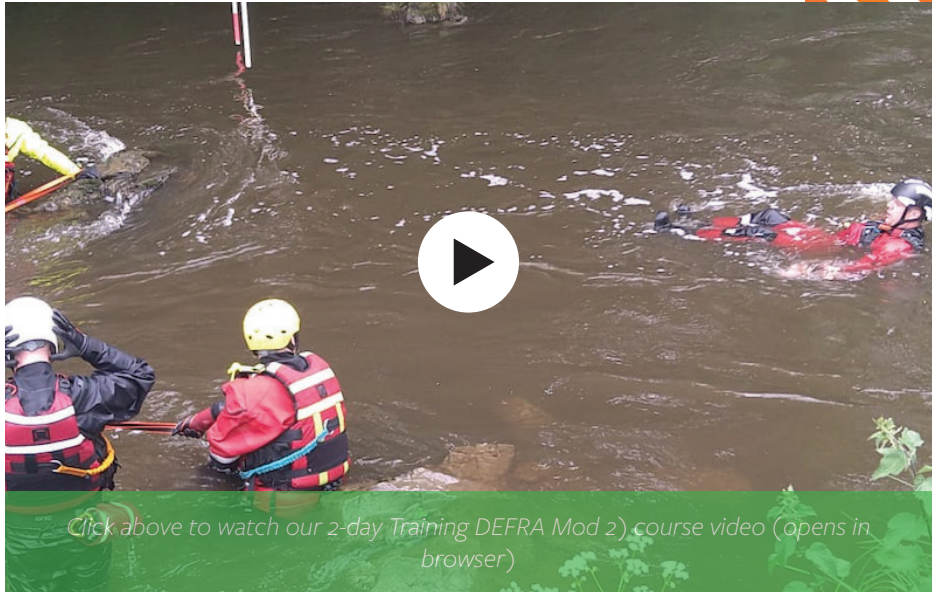
Shore-based training (5-hours contact time)

A basic DEFRA Module 1) course (not the Annex 'H' syllabus, so not Environment Agency compliant) can be run as a closed course for 6-12 candidates. This is the bare minimum requirement to work waterside, within three metres of the edge, where the chance of accidental immersion is unlikely. An example would be a Canal and River Trust Data Collector, noting boat Index numbers. The theory session is the same as our Annex 'H' course (Option 2) however doesn't cover the moving water / river elements in any depth. The candidates get to experience recovering a 'live casualty' from the water but not how to deal with an accidental immersion, should they fall in, or wading, or any of the 'in-water' elements. Not accepted by the EA but is accepted by CRT. Recertification annually.

Course fees: (Including lifejacket hire) Please contact the office for current course fees. Shorebased training bookings are taken based on 6 -12 candidates training together.



2-day training



The two-day (DEFRA insists on a minimum of 14 hours contact time to be compliant with the Flood Rescue Concept of Operations document) DEFRA Module 2) Water Rescue / Flood First Responder ‘closed’ course. [DEFRA Module 2\) ‘Water Safety / Rescue First Responder’ - Birmingham & Midland Marine Services](#)

‘White water’ venues are available subject to a surcharge to cover facilities and travel costs. – Please ask for details.

Course Fees: (Including hire of rescue grade aquatic PPE) Please contact the office for current course fees.

DEFRA Module 1) Shore-based, Annex ‘H’ and Mod 2) Notes for booking.

Note 1): Open courses we can take small cohorts and combine them to make a group of up to eight candidates. Closed courses are booked for between 6-8 candidates. Bookings of six candidates may be joined by other cohorts – we will endeavour to accommodate you! ‘Option 2’ training courses can accommodate a full booking for 12 candidates only. Sending nine candidates still costs the full cohort amount. ‘Shorebased’ courses are available for group sizes 6-12.

Note 2): Two consecutive days are run for Mod 2) Water Rescue First Responder courses.

MCA Ancillary Training for Commercial Boat Masters



Birmingham & Midland Marine Services Ltd are recognised training providers for the Maritime & Coastguard Agency and approved to deliver their educational programmes including 'Personal Survival and Water Safety (Restricted)', which complies with SI 2015 No. 410.

Course Fees: (Including hire of aquatic PPE) Please contact the office for current course fees.





Booking procedure

Please email office@midlandmarine.co.uk in the first instance with an outline of the type of training being requested, preferred dates, numbers of candidates and any other information that may assist us to ensure you are taking the right course for yourself or group. Please feel free to call us on 01902 544329 between 0900 – 1700 Monday to Friday to discuss in person.

Dates, availability, and course recommendations will then be emailed to you. Please confirm your chosen date(s) by email and include your details for our invoicing team to set up on the system. We will ask if you operate a Purchase Order Number system, if so please provide us with a PO Number.

Prior to booking dates can you please discuss with your accounts or financing department, if we are required to undertake your in-house 'onboarding' process, as we won't accept bookings until this is in place.

Our payment terms are **50% deposit or your PO number, to secure the course date(s) and the balance payable no later than ten working days in advance of the first course date booked.**

Many companies and organisations struggle with this and require 30-days payment terms: this is not an issue but means that we cannot accept a booking for a course date ***within that 30-day period.***

The balance of account will be due no later than ten working days prior to your earliest course start date and upon receipt of your balance of payment we will register you with the awarding body, confirm instructional teams and if an in-water oriented course, arrange river access.

At this point we will send out your joining instructions, booking forms and medical declaration forms which we require returning electronically, no later than five working days in advance of the course start date.

Birmingham & Midland Marine Services Ltd look forward to discussing your requirements and delivering a course to suit your individual or organisation requirements.







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