



## Drying Room

example only - user to ensure appropriateness of this specification

## Fish Preparation Room



## Why provide a drying room and a fish preparation room?

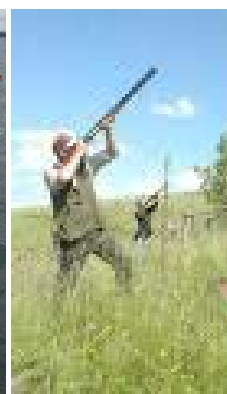
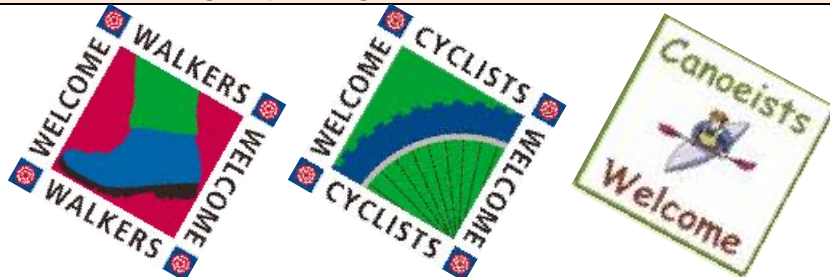
*Increasing numbers of anglers are attracted to Ireland to fish for our wonderful natural assets – game fish, sea fish and coarse fish.*

*A wise accommodation owner will realise that simple facilities such as a drying room ( perhaps even a fish preparation room, if space allows) will entice the angler to stay with them!*



## Is a drying room of attraction to guests other than anglers?

*Availability of a drying room will attract many holiday makers engaged in other outdoor activity - kayaking, walking, sailing, hunting, birdwatching, cycling etc.*



## Designing your Facilities

*As with all project design, consider –*

When	when is the best time to do the work?
Where	where is the best location for the rooms?
What	what do you want to do?
Why	why do you want these rooms?
Who	who will have to be consulted?



*Be inclusive! Where possible, ensure your drying room and fish preparation facilities are wheelchair accessible (doorway and route to / from rooms). From a business sense, consider that 54,000 disabled people hold a fishing license in the UK – a sizable customer base! For more information, contact [www.bdaa.co.uk](http://www.bdaa.co.uk)*

### General notes:

*The information provided is merely guidance and intended as a minimum specification.*

*Professional advice should always be sought in any construction project.*

*The information herein is correct to the best knowledge of the Loughs Agency at the time of going to print.*

*No liability will be accepted for any actions or consequences arising from any errors or any changes in statutory or other regulations (real or perceived).*

## Drying /Changing Room



Picture: a drying room making use of available space – not an ideal set-up but this indicates some of what is required!

The nature of the sport of angling means that anglers will return to their temporary home with lots of wet gear. They will prefer to have dry kit to put on next day! Accommodation advertising availability of a drying room will likely attract a greater number of visiting anglers!

1. Materials. Bear in mind that materials used in a drying room will be alternately exposed to damp and dry air. They will therefore experience stresses associated with repeated expansion and shrinking. Consider which material is best for a particular function - steel is a preferred material for shelving, for instance.
2. Drying source. Sufficient heat and ventilation must be provided to ensure the effective overnight drying of wet clothing and footwear. In addition, an effective means of hanging wet clothing should be provided to make most efficient use of the heat and ventilation provided. A dehumidifier is recommended as the most efficient method of fully drying wet clothing overnight. In addition, a simple ventilation system must be provided to extract any warm humid air generated. A number of air vents at ceiling level on an external wall should suffice.
3. Wall Finishes. Wall finishes should be smooth, impervious and made with a finish that permits effective cleansing. Recommended finishes include washable paint, ceramic tiles with waterproof grouting and plastic sheeting.
4. Rails. Coat rails should be spaced at intervals for hanging garments, waders, buoyancy aids, fishing bags, nets etc.

5. Rods and Reels. Guests are unlikely to want to leave expensive rods and reels in a heated area overnight but a table against one wall may be useful for storing rods, reels, tackle and other odds and ends.

6. Information Notice. A notice stating that the room will be subject to high humidity and heat should be affixed to the inside and outside of the door. It should also point out that such conditions may be unsuitable for rods and reels.

7. Floor Finishes. Floor finishes should be smooth, impervious and have a finish that can be effectively cleaned. Recommended finishes include floor tiles with waterproof grouting or vinyl safety flooring. All surfaces should be non-slip.

8. Bench. A slatted bench seat should run along one wall to facilitate guests changing their clothing. It should be high enough to store boots and wellingtons under.

9. Ceilings. Ceilings should be finished with a washable paint. As clothing will dry best nearest the ceiling it is recommended that one of the following be provided:-

A set of rails for hanging clothing etc from - running across the ceiling with a gap of 50-150mm below the ceiling and spaced 150-250mm apart (depending on size of room). These rails may be attached to the ceiling or to the walls. Access to the rails should be by 2 to 3 steps or a free-standing "step ladder" with non-slip feet. The rails should be adequately furnished with clothes hangers, including the clip on varieties for trousers.

A purpose made clothes airer, fixed to the ceiling and mounted so it can be raised and lowered by means of a pulley system. The size should be of adequate proportions to take jackets, trousers, shirts and socks for four to five persons (or to suit whatever is the maximum likely number of fishing guests)

A set of wire cages with lockable gate and equipped with clothes hangers including the clip on trouser variety. The cages need to be a minimum of 120cm in height and raised a minimum of 30cm clear of the floor. A small step ladder or stool (non slip feet) should be provided to ensure comfortable reach for all.



10. Dimensions. Often the space occupied by a drying room facility is dictated by the physical characteristics of the site ('new build') or the size of the room available for such development. Always obtain confirmation from the Loughs Agency that the size proposed is adequate and appropriate.

### Volume!

When designing the drying room consider the *volume* of air that has to be 'dried' ( length x breadth x height of room )!

11. Wash hand basin. A suitable wash hand basin should be provided with hot and cold running water. Adequate supplies of soap and hand drying facilities should be provided. The basin should be connected to the waste water drainage system.

### Notes:

- a) All surfaces in the changing area must be capable of being easily cleaned. The floor, in particular, must be non-slip.
- b) Laundry facilities do not normally extend to outdoor clothing except for socks and shirts. You may wish to advise guests by notice in the changing area that suchlike should be left wherever you would wish to collect such garments for washing.



## **Fish Preparation Room**



### **Why offer fish preparation facilities?**

Although many anglers now practice “catch and release”, generally releasing their prize unharmed, some visiting anglers will hope to take one or more fish home as a souvenir of their angling trip!

Being a perishable foodstuff, it is essential that the angler can prepare their catch for safe storage and transport.

A dedicated fish preparation room on site *could* be the factor that swings an angler towards choosing a particular accommodation for their trip!

FP1. Wash hand basins. A suitable wash hand basin should be provided, including all necessary supplies of hot and cold water. Adequate supplies of soap and hand drying facilities should be provided. The basin should be connected to the waste water drainage system.

FP2. Sinks. A suitable sink should be provided for the cleaning of fish and equipment. It should be provided with a supply of hot and cold water. Recommended size would be a double sink and double drainer. The sink should be connected to the waste water drainage system. A suitable splash back should be provided.

FP3. Water supply. Water supply should be potable (drinkable).

FP4. Worktops. All worktops should be smooth, impervious and able to be thoroughly cleaned. Nylon cutting boards should be provided to protect worktops from sharp knives.



FP5. Waste disposal. Industrial paper towels and plastic bags should be provided for the collection and sealing of fish gut etc. A plastic bin should be on hand to place this material in and this should be emptied and cleaned each evening.

FP6. Knives. It is recommended that the premises supply two well sharpened fillet knives and one pair of kitchen scissors. Each evening these should be checked for sharpness and cleaned. In addition two sets of knife proof gloves should be provided – again, check and clean each evening. It is not mandatory that anglers use these gloves but they should be available.

FP7. Fish Storage. It is recommended that fish intended for freezing are best left intact (not gutted) as they “keep” better. This, however, is down to the preference of the individual fisherman. A long (chest or, preferably, mini chest) freezer is best suited to storing fish due to their length. For those only wishing to chill their catch a small ‘fridge is adequate.

FP8. Fish Wrapping. In regard to wrapping fish for fridge or freezer, it is deemed adequate that the premises provide large freezer bags and a supply of old newspapers. More exotic types of bespoke packaging exist but are costly and should be provided by the anglers or requested in advance by the anglers. A charge for providing this is deemed reasonable.

FP9. Warning Notice. It is recommended that a notice is posted in the preparation room, disclaiming responsibilities! An example is provided below, for illustration only.

**NOTICE**

The proprietors will not accept any responsibility for accident or injury sustained in preparing fish or any responsibility for the said fish thereafter!

For further advice please contact the Loughs Agency

Email [lionel.knobbs@loughs-agency.org](mailto:lionel.knobbs@loughs-agency.org)

Loughs Agency, 22 Victoria Rd, Londonderry  
Tel 028 7134 2100 (ROI 048 7134 2100)

Loughs Agency, Darcy Magees Ct, Dundalk Street , Carlingford, Co Louth

