

Where does the water come from?

The water at Knowle Locks, on the Grand Union Canal in the West Midlands, comes primarily from Olton Reservoir and a back-pump in central Birmingham.

Reservoir water is gravity-fed to the canal. This is much less expensive than pumping water.

Feeders from diverted streams also bring smaller amounts of water into the system.

Olton Reservoir holds 320 million litres of water

The pump at Bowyer Street lifts water up past Camp Hill Locks, from the Digbeth Pound to the Ten Mile Pound on the Grand Union Canal

The water pumped up at Bowyer Street can either come from the Birmingham Level or the groundwater pumps at Perry Barr

The Ten Mile Pound is the ten-mile stretch of canal from the Camp Hill Locks to the Knowle Locks

Knowle Locks are used around 1,300 times a year



For other locations go to canalrivertrust.org.uk/water-sources