

Successes to date

Our Aim

Our long-term goal is to restore the ecological health of the river, for all the wildlife that calls it home, for the local communities who depend on it, and for the visitors who come to enjoy this beautiful river landscape.

There's a long way to go, but we've taken some big first steps:

- ★ Wye citizen scientists have collected over 30,000 samples to date, providing detailed data on more areas of the catchment than ever before. They continue to act as river guardians, monitoring water quality and reporting pollution incidents.
- ★ We've collaborated with other citizen science groups to make this collective data openly available on a bespoke platform called WyeViz, updated every week and accessible to all.
- ★ We've pioneered an award-winning citizen science methodology with the University of Cardiff, with the programme receiving recognition from the Natural Environment Research Council
- ★ We've given evidence to parliament and helped keep the media spotlight on the Wye, regularly featuring on national television, radio and in the press.
- ★ We've curated meetings to bring a positive focus on solutions and remediation, as well as engaging with forums such as the Nutrient Management Board and the Wye Catchment Partnership

What can you do?



Alert authorities and pressure groups to any incidents you see that might damage the Wye



Support us - join our Friends of the River Wye mailing list via our website (www.fouw.org.uk) and follow us on social media.



Donate - help to fund us and other groups working to protect the Wye..



Take action for nature - volunteer as a citizen scientist, get involved with your local Wildlife Trust and report any pollution you see to the Environment Agency or Natural Resources Wales.



Write to your MP - tell your political representative that you care and want to see radical action to save the Wye.



Spend time by the Wye - restoring our relationship with the river is key to restoring the river itself.



Switch to a more plant-based diet and eat less meat - if we want to reduce livestock numbers, we have to reduce the demand for meat.



Only flush pee, poo and paper down the loo. Never flush wet wipes, nappies or sanitary products as they could flow straight into a nearby river.



Buy river-friendly products - look at your kitchen and bathroom cleaning products and avoid buying anything that says it could harm aquatic life.



Buy plastic-free clothing by looking for natural fabrics. Buy chemical-free products wherever possible - avoid things containing PFAs (aka 'forever chemicals' that don't break down).



Conserve water and install a water butt in your garden.



It costs £165 to train and equip a citizen scientist, and £6 a month for ongoing testing at each site on the river