NEWS DETECTIVES

THEDAY
FIND YOUR VOICE

TODAY'S NEWS STORY

Scientists: 'Help us look for river pollution'

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KEYWORDS

- [ ] **Government:** The people who run a country
- [ ] **Regulations:** Rules to protect things
- [ ] **Conservation:** Preventing waste and pollution
- [ ] **Sewage:** Waste water

BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Pollution is the damage caused to the natural environment by harmful substances and waste. Rivers in the UK have become more polluted in recent years. Campaigners are now calling on ordinary people to help find out just how much damage has been done.

Your country needs you! Campaigners are calling on the British public to help find out how much pollution there is in the UK's rivers.

River regulations

The UK's rivers have not been surveyed for five years!

The last **government** removed many of the **regulations** that previously protected UK rivers. The current government has not announced whether it will bring them back.

Citizen scientists

The Rivers Trust, an organisation that argues for river **conservation**, has organised a "Big River Watch" this September to tackle the problem. It has developed an app for people to send it information about pollution levels in their local rivers.

"I'd encourage anyone and everyone to spend some time by their river and make their voice heard," said Tessa Wardley of the Rivers Trust.

Taking Action

The government has announced that it will force companies to help clean the UK's rivers and punish them if they cause pollution.

But some campaigners say these plans are not enough to end the **sewage** crisis and that there needs to be more regulation.

INVESTIGATION OF THE DAY

WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY IS IT TO RESCUE THE RIVERS?

WHAT is the government doing to address pollution?

WHO is being asked to send in information about river pollution?

WHERE are people being asked to collect information about pollution?

WHEN is the Big River Watch?

WHY have scientists asked the public for help?

HOW can people send in information about river pollution?

1 TAKE ACTION

Do you live near a river? If so, why not head down and see if you can see any signs of pollution or waste. Write down or draw what you see and share it with an adult, so that they can report the problem. If you don't live near a river, you could learn about how river pollution harms wildlife and share what you find out with family and friends!

2 SHARE YOUR IDEAS

What have you found out in your investigation? Write, present or even record a piece that talks about the harmful effects of river pollution on nature. Share what you've learned with your family and friends. What do they think? We want to hear your ideas too! Your teacher can share your reports with us too by sending them to editorial@theday.co.uk.

3 Build THE Change

Deadline extended!

LEGO

COMPETITION TIME!

Because of traffic and poor town planning, 60% of 4 to 11 year olds never play outside on their own street. But research tells us that playing outside and connecting with nature is good for people and the planet. One brilliant solution is to set up your own Play Street that's designed for people and nature to thrive! Visit **www.playingout.net** then enter our design competition!

STEP 1: Reimagine a street near you as a wild and playful street, one where young people can safely play outside and interact with nature.

STEP 2: Share your vision with us by creating a drawing or a 3D model made from LEGO, craft bits, natural materials or recycled rubbish. Don't forget to explain your awesome ideas and take a photo of your build.

STEP 3: Write a letter persuading the adults around you to set up a wild play street in your community so that local people, wildlife, and our amazing planet can all thrive. Read to them and then send it to us, along with your designs or photos to be in with a shot of winning!

Enter the competition to win prizes!

Visit **www.theday.co.uk/build-the-change-planet-play/** to find out how to enter the competition.