Love Wales’ Water

We drink it, flush it, play in it, swim in it, fish in it and plants and wildlife live in it.

Natural Resources Wales is responsible for implementing the Water Framework Directive in Wales.

The 3 key principles of the Water Framework Directive are:

- **Protect**: prevent deterioration
- **Restore**: aim to achieve ‘good or better’ status
- **Promote**: value of the water environment

**Progress in cycle 1**

- **2,736km** rivers meet good or better status
- **3.7 km²** of lakes are in good or better status
- **38 groundwater bodies** in Wales all at good quantitative condition
- **1,244 km²** of estuarine and coastal waters in good or better status

Over three years, partnership projects delivered £4.4million worth of improvements that contributed to:

- **600 farm assessments**
- **333 fish easements**
- **18 fish passes**
- **71km** of fencing
- **850 soft bank revetment**
- **74 habitat restoration schemes**

All our activities place pressure on our water environment.

The top 5 issues are:

1. **Physical modifications** e.g. weirs, culverts
2. **Historical mining activities** e.g. metals
3. **Rural pollution** e.g. sediment and nutrients from agriculture
4. **Point source pollution** e.g. phosphate from waste water treatment works
5. **Pollution from towns, cities and transport** e.g. chemicals from urban and transport environments

How we are tackling these issues

We are aiming for a minimum increase to achieve 42% of water bodies to meet good status by 2021. We will work with the Liaison Panels, partners and organisations to develop a delivery plan. These groups are absolutely key to the success of the delivery of improvements as we cannot do it alone.

To find out more go to:
https://naturalresources.wales/water/quality/?lang=en

A list of national and local measures can be found on waterwatchwales.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/en/