

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION, SPILLS, FIREWATER

CONTAINMENT NEWS



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# APRIL 2016

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**Dr Paul Leinster**

**Former Chief Executive of the Environment Agency**

*"Containment News is a great free resource, packed with the latest relevant news on environmental crimes, actions and solutions. Subscribe now and ensure you are kept up to date with all the important environmental issues."*

**Andy Cummins**  
Campaign Director Surfers Against Sewage



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"Containment News is an invaluable free resource for the latest on environmental issues ranging from general conservation matters to pollution events and legislation, and we would recommend it to all with an interest in these or related topics".

**Dr Clare Cavers, Research Officer, Fidra**  
Fidra is a Scottish registered charity and SCIO no.SCO43895.

## **EDITOR'S COMMENT**



**The Environment Agency has opened a stakeholder consultation on how often water companies should be legally permitted to discharge raw, untreated human sewage effluent directly into the nation's beaches, rivers and coastline. The very concept of setting targets based on what the public are 'comfortable' with seems to me to be a rather defeatist stance to take.**

**Everyone knows that realistically 100% safety is virtually impossible to achieve, however, surely it makes more sense to set a zero tolerance target. Starting each 'bathing season' with a number of 'permitted spill**

**vouchers' means that a water company's**

**pollution record can be judged by only counting incidents that exceed their permitted target level.**

**I can't imagine the Fire Service asking the public's opinion on how many legally permitted waste fires they considered were reasonable in a 12 month period.**

**Telling a waste recycling firm that it was legally permitted to have 3 fires in a 12 month period would be totally ridiculous, and yet somehow it's deemed perfectly rational to set water companies permitted spill targets.**

**Even though both problems will never be totally eradicated the starting point each year for both pollution problems should surely be zero tolerance with the environmental and emergency services focusing on attempting to eliminate them altogether.**

**We like to think that we are living in an age of technological enlightenment and environmental awareness, however, when it comes to sewage pollution we don't**

seem to have progressed quite so far. In centuries past waste was simply thrown out of the window onto the streets, with only an accompanying shout to warn passers by, when the practice was banned it didn't follow a period of consultation allowing a certain number of legally permitted pedestrian soakings per household.

**“Surfers Against Sewage (SAS) has been monitoring sewage pollution at hundreds of beaches and surf spots nationwide for years. There are 31,000 sewer overflows around the UK, designed to discharge a poisonous mixture of raw, human sewage and other pollutants from road drains and rooftops, directly into our rivers and seas. Most beaches have at least one sewer overflow that discharges this toxic soup, either directly onto the beach or into a waterway nearby. These sewer overflows are often hidden away from view at the beachfront to conceal their existence. The ten worst performing sewer overflows in the Safer Seas Service discharged a combined 250 times during the 2015 bathing season (May-Sept). Shockingly, there are many more sewer overflows along our coastline that boast similarly shamefully numbers of toxic discharges.”**

**Surfers Against Sewage is calling for public support for Sewage Free Seas, and aims to deliver thousands of signatures to the Environment Agency and Environment Minister at its All Party Parliamentary Group meeting in Westminster on 4th May, once the consultation has closed (the Environment Agency consultation closes on 3rd May).**

**I would like to encourage all Containment News subscribers to add their signature to SAS's campaign and help to finally deliver sewage free seas.**

**As SAS Campaign Director Andy Cummins said “This really is the best chance in a generation to plug the many thousands of polluting sewer overflows around the country. We need a critical mass of supporters that will be too loud to ignore. It's now or never, take action and sign up for Sewage Free Seas today!”**

**Phil Bremner**

**Editor: Containment News, Flood News, Wireless eNews & LPRA eNews**

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**\*\*\*\*\* Previous Editor's Comments together with PDF versions of past editions of Containment News can be found [HERE](#) \*\*\*\*\***

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***(also available in searchable PDF format on request)***

# UK NEWS



## [Serious 800 Tonne Blaze At Birmingham Recycling Centre](#)

Up to 800 tonnes of metal and plastic were set ablaze at a recycling plant in Birmingham with huge plumes of smoke visible across the city. More than 100 firefighters and 17 fire engines were sent to tackle the fire at EMR in Saltily, West Midlands Fire Service said. Staff from the Environment Agency, which regulates the site, are at the scene because of initial concerns over pollution. As well as working to extinguish the main fire, crews are working hard to try to stop the it spreading to other scrap. It is not the first major fire to break out at the site, with six crews having battled a previous blaze at the same centre in August last year. Video [HERE](#) ...

[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk) [www.express.co.uk](http://www.express.co.uk) [www.itv.com](http://www.itv.com)

## [Campaigners Push For Sewage-Free Seas](#)

A Northumberland GP who fell ill after paddle boarding in the sea without knowing her local sewer overflow had recently discharged is backing a campaign for sewage-free seas. Dr Georgina Sowman, who is a surfer and stand-up paddle boarder, suffered a severe illness with fevers and rigours, vomiting and sinus infection after the incident. She said: "It's important to provide sewage free seas for local communities to enjoy." The Environment Agency has opened a six-week industry stakeholder consultation on how often water companies should be legally permitted to discharge raw, untreated human sewage effluent directly into the nation's beaches, rivers and coastline. In response, Surfers Against Sewage is calling for 10,000 surfers, water users, boarders, swimmers and beach lovers to sign its response [HERE](#) ...

[www.berwick-advertiser.co.uk](http://www.berwick-advertiser.co.uk)

## [Large Oil Spill In 'Poldark' Gloucestershire Hamlet](#)

Officials are investigating a 'large' oil spill in a picturesque hamlet featured in hit TV drama Poldark. The Environment Agency has confirmed a leak of domestic oil in Lasborough was reported to it last month. It will not say at this stage where the leak has come from, and a concerned nearby resident told Stroud Life it is a worrying situation. "It's horrendous," said the woman, who did not wish to be named. "It could affect the water - we don't know - but we haven't been told much." ...

### **Thames Water Fined £380K For Pollution**

Thames Water has been ordered to pay £380,000 for polluting a rural stream in Buckinghamshire. According to the Environment Agency, the fine follows “numerous failures” reported at Princes Risborough sewage treatment works between February and July 2013. Traces of sewage were found up to 4km downstream, killing wildlife, it added. An Environment Officer said: “Our officers attended the site where they walked the Horsenden Stream and saw thick layers of sewage fungus carpeting the river bed and plants. One of the officers had never seen sewage fungus in a stream that bad before. A biological survey of the stream noted that the impact of the sewage was chronic and was likely to have been prevalent for some time. “The conditions observed by Environment Agency officers during their visits were not isolated incidents. Log book entries suggest ongoing discharges and other problems at a site that was struggling to cope.” ...

[www.energylivenews.com](http://www.energylivenews.com)

### **Thames Water Fined £110K For Polluting Lake With Raw Sewage**

Thames Water has been fined £110,000 over blocked pipes which leaked raw sewage into Danson Park Lake - a popular spot for school, club and public boating sessions. Bexley Council reported the company to the Environment Agency (EA) in May 2013, after discovering that sediment and raw sewage was discharging into the main stream which feeds the lake - due to a blocked sewer. The council lost money as it was forced to suspend rowing and boating sessions because of the risk to public health. Since 1999, Danson Park Lake has been plagued by numerous pollution incidents, for which Thames Water has previously been fined £22,000. The EA previously prosecuted the water and sewage specialists in 2011, when 3,500 fish were killed in the polluted lake ...

[www.newsshopper.co.uk](http://www.newsshopper.co.uk)

### **Stock Rotation Key To Recycling Fire Prevention, Trials Suggest**

The way in which waste material is stored and how often stocks are rotated are key to reducing the risk of deep-seated fires at recycling sites, initial results from waste fire trials suggest. The early findings from industry and regulator-backed waste fire tests were presented at the Essex County Fire and Rescue Services HQ yesterday (March 23) with the support of the Chief Fire Officers’ Association (CFOA) and the WISH forum. Other findings suggest surface fires are unlikely to lead to more deep seated fires ...

[www.letsrecycle.com](http://www.letsrecycle.com)

### **Pollution From NFU President’s Family Farm Led To Fine In 2014**

A family farm co-owned by the president of the National Farmers’ Union, which has consistently lobbied against a tightening of farm pollution regulations, was the source of river pollution in 2013. Polluting material is thought to have spilled into a local river at the Welsh farm, causing damage over a kilometre of land and water. The case highlights the relatively small fines that are levied on farmers who pollute waterways, as well as problems with pollution from farms.

The union that Meurig presides over has consistently called on ministers to weaken proposed new environmental regulations on pollution ...

[www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com)

### Sewage Curbs To Clean The Sea For Swimmers

Water companies will be forced to cut the number of times they discharge raw sewage into the sea under government proposals to protect swimmers. Limits will be placed on spills from 1,500 coastal overflows that discharge thousands of gallons of untreated sewage on to beaches or into nearby waterways when heavy rainfall overwhelms the drainage system. The overflows are supposed to discharge on a maximum of three occasions during the official “bathing season” ...

[www.thetimes.co.uk](http://www.thetimes.co.uk)

### Plastics Fire At Ellesmere Recycling Unit

About 100 tonnes of plastic caught fire at a recycling unit near Ellesmere. About 40 firefighters tackled the blaze at Tudor Griffiths off Wood Lane. Crews are still at the scene damping down and an investigation has begun into the cause of the fire, said Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service.

Station manager Jon Temple said: “We do not yet know the exact cause but it is likely to be material within the waste which has caused the combustion.” An Environment Agency spokeswoman said staff were monitoring the water runoff to minimise the impact on the surrounding area ...

[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)   [www.resource.co](http://www.resource.co)

### SEPA Issues Summary Of Responses For Enforcement Policy Consultation

On 23 July 2015 SEPA published a consultation on an updated enforcement policy and proposed guidance under the new framework. This invited views on those elements of the framework which we are required to produce, to ensure that implementation is transparent and accountable.

Stakeholder engagement has been essential in shaping the new framework, which is part of the wider Better Environmental Regulation programme, and includes the Order, SEPA’s enforcement policy and our guidance. Previous consultations have shown strong support for the underlying aims of our proposed enforcement approach and the proposals for the new measures Report available as a PDF [HERE](#)

[www.sepa.org.uk](http://www.sepa.org.uk)

### Six Mile Pollution Problem Caused By Blocked Sewer

NI Water has confirmed that the cause of raw sewage flowing into the Six Mile Water in Ballyclare last week was a blocked sewer in the Rathmena area of the town. The issue, which was reported to the Northern Ireland Environment Agency by local anglers. Flushing items like household wipes, baby wipes, sanitary towels etc, are a very common cause of sewer blockages across Northern Ireland, and NI Water is literally fighting a daily battle to keep the sewers clear, at a cost of £2.5 million per year. The result of flushing these items are blockages in our sewers which in turn can lead to out of sewer flooding and potential pollution of our rivers ...



### **Angling Trust & Fish Legal Demand United Utilities Come Clean Over River Kent Pollution**

Angling Trust and Fish Legal have demanded that United Utilities Come Clean over River Kent Pollution. Flood-hit anglers and communities in Cumbria got an unpleasant surprise when the River Kent's water levels finally began to fall this spring. A foul-smelling, cloudy discharge of sewage effluent became evident, gushing from temporary outfall pipes at United Utilities' Kendal Waste Water Treatment Works, which had suffered serious damage from

Storm Desmond. Crayfish deaths and unwell birds have been seen downstream of the discharge into this Lake District beauty spot ... [www.fishlegal.net](http://www.fishlegal.net)

### **Plaistow Farmer 'Devastated' As Land Set Aside For Lambing Is Polluted**

A Plaistow farmer is 'devastated' at the effect a second pollution incident in less than a year has had on her land. Back in June 2015 controversial energy plant Crouchland Farm, in Rickmans Lane, apologised for a digestive spill. But four Environment Agency teams were deployed to deal with a 'significant pollution incident', which occurred on March 16, and gather evidence from a 'small spill of effluent' from one of Crouchland's lagoon s...

[www.midhurstandpetworth.co.uk](http://www.midhurstandpetworth.co.uk)

### **SEPA New Waste Tyre Regulations Come Into Force**

Tough new licensing rules, which will help the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) to crack down on illegitimate waste tyre operators, come into effect on 30 March 2016. All operators who store or process waste tyres will now be required to hold a licence following the introduction of the Waste Management Licensing (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2016. Operators had previously been permitted to process 10 tonnes of tyres per week and store up to 1,000 waste tyres on a secure site for a period of 12 months providing that they registered an exemption with SEPA, and the storage was with a view to recovery or reuse, but this will no longer be allowed ...

[www.media.sepa.org.uk](http://www.media.sepa.org.uk)

### **Microplastic Pollution On Scotland's Beaches**

Microplastics are solid plastic items less than 5mm in size. They were first detected in the marine environment several decades ago and are now known to occur in all of the world's oceans. Evidence is mounting that microplastics are being ingested by a variety of marine and freshwater organisms. They might even be entering the food chain and be eaten by humans. The Scottish

Government has recognised micro plastics as an area of concern and included them in the Scottish marine litter strategy ...

[www.sepaview.com](http://www.sepaview.com)

### Antrim Firm Northstone Fined For Polluting Salmon River

One of Northern Ireland's biggest construction materials companies has been fined £15,000 for polluting a key salmon river. North stone (NI) Ltd, of Kingsway, Dunmurry, Co Antrim, was handed the punishment at Limavady Magistrates Court for polluting the River Roe, a protected Special Area of Conservation. The company was fined for making a polluting discharge and for making a discharge in breach of Department of the Environment (DoE) conditions ...

[www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk](http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk) [www.theconstructionindex.co.uk](http://www.theconstructionindex.co.uk)

### Oil Tank Rupture Spills 5,000 Litres Of Diesel Into River

Neighbours have been left "extremely sad" after an oil tank ruptured and caused 5,000 litres of diesel to spill into a river. The Environment Agency say 5,000 litres of diesel spilled into the River Lea, in Markfield Park, Tottenham, close to Walthamstow, on Wednesday, although it is not yet known what caused it to happen. People first noticed "thick sludge" appearing in the water and now fear the swans, ducks and waterfowl could be destroyed by the gas. Keith Fair, of Yarmouth Crescent, which overlooks the canal, noticed the spillage yesterday and says he has been feeling unwell due to the smell ...

[www.guardian-series.co.uk](http://www.guardian-series.co.uk)



### Come And Meet The Sponsors Of Containment News

Radio Data Networks (RDN) one of the generous sponsors of Containment News will be exhibiting their wireless CSO and blocked sewer monitoring technology at Utility Week Live 17-18 May 2016 at the NEC

Birmingham. Stand D20 RDN will also be exhibiting at the WRc Innovation Day in Swindon, UK on the 27th April 2016.

### Concerns Over Pollution Incidents On Three Mile Water

A number of pollution incidents have been reported on the Three Mile Water river over the Easter holiday period. The incidents, which were discovered on Sunday and Monday, have been condemned by local conservationists and UUP MP Danny Kinahan. Chairman of the Three Mile Water Conservation and Angling Association, Andy Moore, believes that the incidents over the weekend were caused by slurry run-off from fields close to the river and sewage overflow.

He said: “The two incidents of pollution on Easter Sunday and Monday bring it to a total of four incidents classed as low severity in the past fortnight ...

[www.newtownabbeytoday.co.uk](http://www.newtownabbeytoday.co.uk)

### **‘Wicked Pollution From Aberdeen Bypass Must Be Investigated’**

A leading biologist, living close to Aberdeen’s long-awaited AWPR, has urged Scotland’s environmental watchdog to investigate further into “wicked” pollution caused by the project. Professor Anthony Hawkins is a specialist in the effects that noise has on fish and his advice on conservation issues has been sought by governments all over the world. The former head of the Marine Laboratory in Aberdeen, who lives close to the river in Blairs, called on the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) to investigate “the pollution seeping through the area’s waterways” ...

[www.pressandjournal.co.uk](http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk)

### **Lincolnshire Firm To Pay £24,300 For Polluting Local Watercourse**

A Hughes and Son (Skellingthorpe) Ltd, Jerusalem Farm, Skellingthorpe, pleaded guilty to a breach of Environmental Permitting Regulations for allowing effluent to flow into a tributary of the Skellingthorpe Catchwater Drain, resulting in extremely high levels of ammonia in the water.

Lincoln Magistrates’ Court heard the company, which runs a rendering plant on-site to process animal by-products into protein meal, had been negligent and failed to take reasonable care to prevent the pollution from occurring. The court was told by Megan Huff, prosecuting for the Environment Agency, that the company’s monitoring processes were insufficient, and the sampling they had carried out of the tributary was inadequate as it failed to identify significantly high levels of ammonia in the watercourse ...

[www.investinuk.net](http://www.investinuk.net)

### **Wood Recyclers Urged To Lobby MPs Over EA Regulations**

Waste wood operators are being urged to lobby their MPs over Environment Agency guidance on fire prevention regulations which their trade association argues is “not fit for purpose”. According to the Wood Recyclers’ Association (WRA), a number of wood recyclers “genuinely fear for their livelihoods going forward” if the latest Fire Prevention Plan (FPP) guidance issued by the Agency last year “doesn’t change”. It is therefore again calling on its members to contact their local MPs regarding concerns about the guidance, following the end of the Agency’s consultation on the plans on March 4 ...

[www.letsrecycle.com](http://www.letsrecycle.com)

### **Lincolnshire Firm Fined £24K For Polluting Watercourse**

A company in Lincolnshire has been ordered to pay £24,000 for polluting a local watercourse. A Hughes & Son (Skellingthorpe) Ltd pleaded guilty to a breach of Environmental Permitting Regulations for allowing effluent to flow into a watercourse. That resulted in high levels of ammonia in the water, according to the Environment Agency. Lincoln Magistrates’ Court heard the company, which runs a rendering plant on site to process animal by-products into protein meal,

had been negligent and failed to take reasonable care to prevent the pollution from occurring ...

[www.energylivenews.com](http://www.energylivenews.com)



### **Molson Coors Brewery Fined £100,000 For Polluting Thames Tributary**

Molson Coors Brewery (UK) Ltd was sentenced by Basingstoke Magistrates Court on 17 March after pleaded guilty to two offences: causing an illegal water discharge activity and breaching its environmental permit. It was fined £100,000 with £31,586 costs for breaching the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010. The Environment Agency (EA) received reports of fungus in a stream outside a residential development in

Alton, Hampshire. EA officers traced the

pollution to Molson Coors' Alton brewery. Trade effluent was seen discharging into a culvert of the Lasham drain, which carries surface water runoff and is a tributary of the River Wey, through cracks and defects in the culvert chamber ... [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com) [www.thedrinksbusiness.com](http://www.thedrinksbusiness.com)

### **Firm Fined £9,000 Over Housing Development Pollution**

A Castleford engineering firm has been fined £9,000 over a pollution incident relating to a housing development in Huddersfield. Flannery Civil Engineering Ltd, of Willow Bridge Way, Castleford, appeared before Kirklees Magistrates' Court today following a pollution incident at Lindley Park, Huddersfield, in November 2013. The company admitted one environmental offence for an unauthorised discharge of water, containing silt and sediment, from the construction site into a nearby watercourse that runs into Grimescar Dyke ...

[www.pontefractandcastlefordexpress.co.uk](http://www.pontefractandcastlefordexpress.co.uk)

### **Another Scrapyard Fire**

Between 60 and 70 firefighters were early today battling the huge blaze which ripped through a Norfolk scrapyard containing up to 1,000 scrapped cars. The public were warned to keep car windows closed if they drove past the rural area at Harvey Lane, Seething, because of the smoke and fumes. The Environment Agency was liaising with Hazmat officers to assess any pollution threat from the fire ...

[www.edp24.co.uk](http://www.edp24.co.uk)

### **Fire Crews Tackle Underground Rubbish Blaze At Stansted**

Crews from Stansted, Newport and Saffron Walden were called to Elsenham Road after a large amount of rubbish underground caught alight. Three fire engine were on site all day yesterday to control the blaze. A fire spokesman said: “Crews initially reported that there was smoke visible but no sign of flames as the rubbish burned underground. After undertaking a survey of the site with the Environment Agency the decision was taken to use a digger to reveal the seat of the fire and digging operations commenced at around 1pm. “The incident commander reported that the fire involved wood chipping and other waste which was buried and alight. There is no indication that asbestos is involved in this fire.” ...

[www.dunmowbroadcast.co.uk](http://www.dunmowbroadcast.co.uk)

### **Pollution In South Wales Rivers Is Affecting Wildlife, Report Finds**

Pollution in South Wales rivers is affecting wildlife, a review has found. Most of Cardiff is located on a large flood plain which hosts three rivers - the Taff, the Ely and the Rhymney. A report is going to Cardiff council’s environmental scrutiny committee about the water quality of the city’s rivers, listing concerns and pollution issues. It also looks at work being carried out to keep them clean and any impact the water quality is having on the local environment. The report says that ongoing work by Natural Resources Wales and Dwr Cymru Welsh Water has resulted in significant improvements in water quality and pollution levels in each of the rivers but that there are still difficulties ...

[www.walesonline.co.uk](http://www.walesonline.co.uk)

### **EA Bosses Spend More On Job Cuts Than Flood Risk Plans**

The Environment Agency splashed out £5million more on lay-offs than on flood prevention planning over two years. Bosses spent £14million pounds on lavish redundancy packages between March 2013 and March 2015, figures have revealed. Most of the 260 job losses were voluntary and £3.6million was spent paying off 19 senior staff earning more than £150,000 a year. In the same period, the EA spent £8.9million on strategies to deal with the flooding that devastated the lives of thousands of homeowners across the country, accounts show. Now flood victims want to know if the laid-off staff had roles in flood prevention ...

[www.mirror.co.uk](http://www.mirror.co.uk)

### **Recycling Centre Closure Leaves Trail Of Job Losses**

Residents are ‘seething’ after the closure of a Leigh recycling centre left a trail of job losses, rubbish ‘piled up taller and wider than five terraced houses’ and reports of rats near the site. SC Chadwick and Sons Ltd has gone into liquidation, leading to 35 job losses at its waste sites on Manchester Road in Leigh and Bolton, which have both been served with suspension notices by the Environment Agency due to ‘non-compliance of their environmental permits and the risk of pollution’ ...

[www.leighjournal.co.uk](http://www.leighjournal.co.uk)

## Forthcoming SWIG Workshop Programmes



SWIG (Sensors for Water Interest Group) continue to organise workshop programmes on a wide variety of subjects - the next events will be : 4 May 2016: Robotics & autonomous systems (working title), National Space Centre, Leicester. 25 May 2016: Flow measurement workshop: Meeting data and commercial needs today and into the future, HR Wallingford to include an optional tour of Froude Hall hydraulic modelling equipment. 22 June 2016: Process Control (working title), Steam Museum, Kempton Park WTW, London, kindly sponsored by Thames Water to include an optional tour. July 2016: Biosensors, details TBC 2-3 Nov 2016: SWIG Early Career Researcher Poster Competition and a SWIG workshop to be held at WWEM - more details soon! All workshops are open to members and non-members. For further details and to register please see [www.swig.org.uk](http://www.swig.org.uk) or contact [rosa.richards@swig.org.uk](mailto:rosa.richards@swig.org.uk) or call 01934 830658 [www.swig.org.uk](http://www.swig.org.uk)

## Forthcoming Future Water Association Events



The Future Water Association (formerly known as the Society of British Water and Waste Water Industries (SBWWI)) has a vision to shape the future of water. The Association is a not for profit organisation governed by a Management Committee made up by members, all of whom have years of experience within the water sector: Future Water Association Water Dragons 2016 Heat Two, 17 May 2016, NEC : For details of future events please click [HERE](#) or contact them on +44 (0) 1926 513771/4 or Email [admin@futurewaterassociation.com](mailto:admin@futurewaterassociation.com) [www.futurewaterassociation.com](http://www.futurewaterassociation.com)



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# WORLD NEWS

## **INDIA: Pink Foam Flowing In The Yamuna Is Toxic Industrial Waste**

It looks like candy floss but it not. Pink foam from toxic industrial waste floating in the river Yamuna at Wazirabad in North Delhi is yet another reminder of how polluted the river is. Residents in the area say the foam is a result of toxic chemical dyes used in the cloth manufacturing units there and then discharged into the river. 19 drains in the capital flow into the river contributing 96 per cent on the total pollutants in the river. A mere five per cent of the sewage that is discharged into the river is treated, posing a serious health hazard ...

[www.ndtv.com](http://www.ndtv.com)

## **USA: Florida's Worst Mass Fish Deaths In Decades**

Thousands of dead fish have washed ashore in Florida causing what some have called 'the worst fish kill in decades'. Florida's Indian River Lagoon is cluttered with scores of dead, rotting fish and thousands of them are floating belly up in polluted water. Captain Alex Gorichky, a conservationist who runs a small fishing tour company told the New Times that he's seen 'every species of fish in the lagoon', including redfish that have been breeding for 35 years. 'The stretch is 30 miles long, and we're looking at devastating amounts of fish floating throughout that whole 30-mile stretch.' ...

[www.dailymail.co.uk](http://www.dailymail.co.uk)

## **INDIA: 302 Polluted River Stretches Identified On 275 River**

Discharge of untreated and partially treated sewage from cities/towns and industrial effluents had led to pollution of altogether 302 polluted river stretches on 275 rivers, including Brahmani and Mahanadi, the Lok Sabha was informed today. It was found that Maharashtra had most number of polluted stretches ...

[www.news.webindia123.com](http://www.news.webindia123.com)

## **LEBANON: Litany River Pollution An 'Environmental Catastrophe': MP**

Lebanese MP Ali Fayyad said the growing pollution of the country's Litany River must be seriously addressed ...

[www.dailystar.com.lb](http://www.dailystar.com.lb)

## **CANADA: Rainfall Fuels Raw Sewage Dumpings Into Thames**

April showers bring, well, you may not want to know. Heavy rainfall this spring is fuelling more human sewage pollution of the Thames River from London, a problem linked to the explosive growth in recent years of life-killing toxic algae in Lake Erie, into which the Thames ultimately flows. In the first three months of 2016, figures reported by the city on its website show London dumped 59,473 cubic metres of raw sewage into the river from its waste water treatment plants and 91,171 cubic metres of partially treated waste. That sewage, from so-called

“bypasses,” when heavy rains overwhelm the system, was enough to fill about 60 Olympic-sized swimming pools ...

[www.lfpress.com](http://www.lfpress.com)

### **MUMBAI: Working In Mumbai's Savage Sewers**

Next time you think that you have tough job, spare a thought for the people trying to keep Mumbai's sewers running. It's not just an unpleasant job, it can also be dangerous .. even deadly. This BBC video report ...

[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

### **INDIA: Polluted Rivers Lead To Jaundice Scare**

Amid fear of spread of jaundice due to release of domestic waste into rivers Brahmani and Koel, the Rourkela city administration has taken measures to check spread of water-borne diseases. But the task is cut out for the administration due to shortage of manpower in Public Health and Engineering Department (PHED). Rourkela ADM K Sudarshan Chakravorty had convened a meeting with Municipality and PHED officials to review preparations to fight jaundice and heat wave condition ...

[www.newindianexpress.com](http://www.newindianexpress.com)

### **USA: Toxic Pollution Still Seeping Into Anacostia River**

For over 140 years the Anacostia River that traverses Prince George's County in Maryland into Washington, D.C. has been the dumping ground for industry and residents alike. While the industry disposed of toxic wastes, people dumped trash in obnoxious proportions and with that, the Anacostia turned into one of the most polluted rivers in the country. “Twenty-seven years ago we were pulling refrigerators, tires, cars,” Jim Foster, president of the Anacostia Watershed Society, told ThinkProgress, “people were dumping a lot of stuff.” Over the years, however, behaviours have changed ...

[www.thinkprogress.org](http://www.thinkprogress.org)

### **INDIA: Polluted Mangala River Threatens Marine Life**

Acute pollution in river Mangala has threatened fish and other freshwater species. A large number of fish are dying almost everyday for the past one week. According to sources, the sewerage treatment plant on the banks of the river has failed to fulfil its purpose and the untreated waste water is entering the river, turning the water black. The water body is filled with slush and stench emanating from it makes the life of people of 11 villages located along the river miserable. The villagers depend on the river for their daily needs ...

[www.newindianexpress.com](http://www.newindianexpress.com)

# **IT'S NOT ALL BAD NEWS :-)**

**£4.5 Million Cumbrian Coastal Clean-Up Scheme Up And Running**

A £4.5 million scheme to help improve bathing water quality on Cumbria's Solway coast is up and running. The United Utilities scheme has doubled the capacity of Allenby's wastewater treatment works, situated just off the beach, and created a new underground storage tank at the works, to capture more storm water during heavy rain, and reduce sewer spills. New bug-zapping UV (ultraviolet) equipment at the site has also improved the quality of the treated wastewater which is returned to the sea ...

[www.cumbriacrack.com](http://www.cumbriacrack.com)

### Working To Restore Salmon To Yorkshire's Rivers

It was once one of the dirtiest rivers in Europe, but salmon could be set to return to the stretch of the River Don through Sheffield city centre thanks to a £78m high-tech waste treatment plant. Salmon was once so common in the River Don that it provided an affordable meal and was a staple part of the local diet, but pollution from industry during the 19th and 20th centuries later made the river uninhabitable for most wildlife ...

[www.yorkshirepost.co.uk](http://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk)

### Call Of Nature Campaign Gets Serious About Sewage

Call of Nature is a new campaign to raise awareness of the pollution that badly maintained septic tanks, cesspits and package sewage treatment plants could cause to the North West's rivers and waterways. The North West region has the highest number of private sewerage systems in the UK with 60,000 properties not connected to the public sewer network. Septic tanks work like miniature sewage treatment systems, which store and treat waste from households. Full details of the campaign can be found on Call of Nature's website [HERE](#)

[www.cumbriacrack.com](http://www.cumbriacrack.com) [www.itv.com](http://www.itv.com)

### The Cotton Bud Project FIDRA

Some exciting news in the battle against marine plastic litter, namely that Johnson & Johnson, and Waitrose, have both committed to stopping the use of plastic in their cotton bud sticks by the end of 2016, following extensive dialogue with [Fidra](#) (a charity based in East Lothian, Scotland. Fidra seek to find ways to engage local concerns over current and emerging environmental issues, and use this to contribute to wider dialogue at national and international levels. With plastic cotton buds in sewage related debris the PROBLEM has a simple SOLUTION. The Cotton Bud Project, has recently launched its new website - please see link below ...

[www.cottonbudproject.org.uk](http://www.cottonbudproject.org.uk)

**PLEASE REMEMBER - In the vast majority of cases the fines that appear in the press and in Containment News do NOT include the remediation costs, which usually dwarf the size of the court cost and fine. For example in April 2010 a UK water company was fined £15k for polluting a local river, however the true costs were far greater; tankering away the spilt chemical £32,600, Plugging the leak**

*£8,300, fish surveys £26,000, Installing new equipment to detect a leak £60,000, Charge for EA officers attending £2,271\*, restocking the stretch of river £63,500. When added to the fine and prosecution costs the incident cost £211,164. (\*this figure can be much higher, in May 2010 a fire at a chemical factory in Huddersfield was hit with a bill for £300,000 from the Environment Agency and HSE for their incident investigation costs). In most cases standard liability insurance will not cover this. Please check with your insurance company. The above figures do not include lost production costs or the damage to a company's reputation and share price, in many cases suppliers and customers have a tendency to distance themselves from a company under investigation. To read a Green Paper and find out more about the true cost of a pollution incident please click [HERE](#) to discuss arranging a no obligation site safety survey please call 01279 600 440*

## **CONTAINMENT NEWS IS SPONSORED BY:**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL INNOVATIONS LIMITED**

Environmental Innovations - designers, manufacturers and installers of simple yet incredibly effective fully-automated in-drain pollution containment systems, uniquely combating spills, firewater and flooding. By blocking the outflow from your site and transforming your existing drainage system into a capacious containment vessel, companies now have an effective alternative to expensive whole site bunding, and a solution to incidents where a spill-kit is woefully inadequate. With Polluter Pays Principles being mercilessly enforced by Government agencies and courts, no company can afford to be without these state of the art 24 hour auto-containment systems which seamlessly integrates wirelessly with your existing equipment such as fire alarms etc.

[www.environmental-innovations.co.uk](http://www.environmental-innovations.co.uk)

### **RADIO DATA NETWORKS LIMITED**

Radio Data Networks is a company dedicated to the remote monitoring of assets and infrastructure using wireless technology. Our key staff have served the Industrial, Commercial, Transport and Utility Sectors for almost 30-years helping to deliver some of Europe's largest and more challenging wireless monitoring projects. Our flagship BDT Blocked Sewer, Blocked Drain and CSO monitoring technology, which recently won the SBWWI Water Dragon Innovation Award, is widely deployed and everyday helps to keep Europe's inland waterways and beaches clean. We also supply radio telemetry links for applications such as oil interceptor monitoring, pump control, reservoir, tank and remote alarm status. These can also be used for asset security applications such gate as reservoir hatch and tank security.

[www.radio-data-networks.com](http://www.radio-data-networks.com)

# USEFUL DOWNLOADS

## THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY HAS MOVED IT'S ON-LINE CONTENT TO GOV.UK.

A customised update service is available from [GOV.UK](http://gov.uk) You are able to select the publication type, such as, consultations, guidance, statistics; topic; frequency; and the government departments that you are interested in.

You can change your selection and unsubscribe at any time.

If you would like to try this service, go to the GOV.UK publications page <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications>

1. On the left hand side of the page, pick the type of publications you are interested in (e.g. open consultations), Topic (e.g. Environment), etc.
2. Click 'refresh results' underneath the filter selection
3. Click the 'sign up for GOV.UK updates' link provided. This will use the filters that you have set.
4. Click email or feed alongside 'get updates to this list' and follow the instructions.

If you are interested in changes to legislation, this information will continue to be available from [www.legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk) The 'advanced search' function allows users to search for and view new legislation by topic and part of the UK. You can also keep updated on the development of new legislation through GOV.UK email and feed alerts by selecting to receive relevant consultation and announcement updates. These services are not operated by the Environment Agency; both websites include contact details for queries and feedback.

### *EA Archiving Pollution Prevention Guidance In December*

*The Environment Agency (EA) are archiving all pollution prevention guidance, such as PPGs and Pollution Prevention Pays, in December 2015. This is part of the review and reform of external guidance that they are undertaking as part of Defra's Smarter Guidance project. In line with the rest of Defra, we will no longer publish guidance that we aren't uniquely placed to provide, which includes most good practice guidance. Pollution prevention guidance contains a mix of regulatory and good practice advice. Pollution prevention guidance will be archived from GOV.UK to the National Archives Archived content isn't updated and becomes progressively out-of-date, so shouldn't be relied upon because we can't guarantee the accuracy of legal references. The EA will continue to publish guidance on GOV.UK to help people comply with the law, understand their rights or access Government services.*

### Check The Quality Of Beach & Bathing Water in Your Area

*Find out how clean the water is on beaches and in other bathing areas in England, and if there is a problem with pollution. You can find out about beach and bathing water in England - Northern Ireland - Scotland or Wales*

[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

### EA Publishes Waste Industry Guidance

*The Environment Agency (EA) has published its long-awaited briefing note for the waste industry on separate collections, nine days before the regulations kick in. The information applies to public and private waste collectors from 1 January.*

*Although the Environmental Services Association (ESA) welcomed the publication, it said more details could have been given on business waste collections. Guidance on the EA website lists the four core materials specified under EU regulations: paper, plastic, metal and glass. It said: "This means collecting these four wastes separately from each other and from other wastes. This applies to commercial (trade), industrial and household waste." ...*

[www.mrw.co.uk](http://www.mrw.co.uk)

### New Place To Find Good Practice Oil Info

*The Oil Care Campaign (OCC), a partnership between the UK environment agencies, trade, professional bodies and industry, has launched a new website '[www.oilcare.org.uk](http://www.oilcare.org.uk)'. As the public face of the OCC the site aims help the public and businesses find the information they need; to raise environmental awareness relating to oil, to help people look after their oil, to inform the public and businesses about how to avoid causing oil pollution incidents and to increase used oil recovery ...*

[www.oilcare.org.uk](http://www.oilcare.org.uk)

### New Fire Guidance Publications

*A handbook co-produced by the Environment Agency and DCLG discussing all aspects of the fire and rescue services' environmental impact. The parent document to the 'environmental protection' guidance, the handbook includes corporate guidance for organisational effectiveness. Guidance relating to the protection of the environment during the course of firefighting, rescuing or managing hazardous materials. You might also find the Draft Fire Control Guidance Consultation Draft 27:6:2014 of interest - available [HERE](#)*

[www.ukfrs.com](http://www.ukfrs.com)

### CIRIA Containment systems for the prevention of pollution (C736)

*This guidance has been developed to assist owners and operators of industrial and commercial facilities storing substances (inventories) that may be hazardous to the environment. The original CIRIA R164 Design of containment systems for the prevention of water pollution from industrial incidents (Mason et al, 1997) was written primarily for new construction. However, many of the principles have been applied to good effect on existing sites. The guide has been revised and updated to reflect changes in legislation, construction design and practice and lessons learned from recent incidents (particularly Buncefield), near misses and inspections.*

*Analysis of this and other incidents identifies several causes, future occurrences of which can be avoided by following the guidance in this document ...*

*[www.ciria.org/Resources/Free\\_publications/c736.aspx](http://www.ciria.org/Resources/Free_publications/c736.aspx)*

#### *The Water Act Passed Into Law May 2014*

*As the Water Act passed into law in May 2014, now is the perfect opportunity to make sure you are up-to-date on the forthcoming reforms within the water industry. ...*

*<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/21/contents/enacted>*

#### *New Smarter Guidance & Data Site: Get Involved!*

*The new Smarter Guidance and Data website is a work in progress, it's part of the outcome of the Red Tape Challenge. It is working to make it easier, quicker and clearer to understand what environmental rules apply and simpler to report essential environmental and farming data. The new site is being managed by Defra who want people to get involved and influence what will be on the website, please submit your feedback to them via this link [HERE](#) to see the feedback that they have already received please click [HERE](#) ...*

*[www.guidanceanddata.defra.gov.uk](http://www.guidanceanddata.defra.gov.uk)*

#### *FIA Best Practice Guide To Fire Safety*

*The FIA have just published a new complimentary Best Practice Guide to Fire Safety aimed at everyone who has responsibility for fire safety in their premises. No matter where in the UK you are based or what kind of premises you are responsible for this guide will help explain everything you need to be aware of, in a friendly, easy to understand way ...*

*[www.fia.uk.com](http://www.fia.uk.com)*

#### *Emergency Contact Numbers*

*A useful and freely downloadable wall chart that may be printed and pinned on your office or factories' notice board. It contains details on how to contact the Environment Agency, Flood Forum, etc...*

*[www.environmental-innovations.biz](http://www.environmental-innovations.biz)*

#### *Flood Facts*

*A collection of useful facts about flooding.....*

*[www.environmental-innovations.biz](http://www.environmental-innovations.biz)*

#### *The Full Text of the Environmental Liability Directive*

*Follow the above link to the ELD and other useful information about the environment on the DEFRA website.*

*[www.netregs.gov.uk](http://www.netregs.gov.uk)*

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