About Us

The Clean River Kent Campaign (CRKC) is a coalition of communities living along the river Kent in Cumbria, established in autumn 2021. We work to understand sources of pollution in the river and drive efforts to improve the water quality for people and wildlife.

The river Kent runs through a UNESCO world heritage site, and is designated as an SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) and SAC (Special Area of Conservation) with several critically endangered species including the freshwater pearl mussel, the white clawed crayfish and the bullhead. It is well-loved and well used by people for all sorts of recreational activity. But it is being polluted and needs your help!

CRKC
Clean River Kent Campaign

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Press/other enquiries email

senstaveley@gmail.com

Website

www.sustainablestaveley.org.uk/clean-river-kent-campaign

Facebook

Clean River Kent Campaign
Protect our Rivers

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What is Citizen Science?

Citizen science is research conducted with participation from the general public.

With the cuts in budgets for environmental monitoring and research, ecological citizen science has become an important contributor to our understanding of the natural world, the risks it faces, and the impact of these.

CRKC Citizen Science principles:

- We only accept funding from impartial organisations.
- Our studies are guided by scientists and academics.
- We train and support our volunteer teams.
- Our findings are shared through various channels.
- We issue press releases and respond promptly to media inquiries.
- We're improving our use of existing environmental data.

CRKC Citizen Science Programme Overview:

Our programme powers our Campaign and informs the public.

- **In 2022**, we measured faecal bacteria at six popular river locations. All had levels so high that the Environment Agency would rate the water quality as "Inadequate." We shared these findings locally and nationally.
- **In 2023**, we began a 12-month study of nitrogen and phosphorus at 18 sites along the river Kent and its tributaries. While overall levels were low, some locations showed raised levels. We will publish our analysis soon.
- **In 2024**, we're working with the University of Sheffield to trace the source of E. coli in the river. Results will be published early in 2025.

These studies drive our Campaign and will shape future Citizen Science projects.

How can I get Involved?

Anyone interested in contributing to our understanding can become a citizen scientist. No special skills or qualifications are needed - training and support is provided.

With over 150 volunteers from diverse backgrounds and experiences, 50 of whom are active citizen scientists, we design projects, collect samples, analyse data, and share our findings. If you're near the river Kent, we'd love you to join us!

Email us at -
senstaveley@gmail.com

Visit FreshWater Watch website -
www.freshwaterwatch.org