

<h1>THE RIVERS TRUST</h1>	
<h2>Raw Sewage In Our Rivers</h2>	

1435 FD

We need to put the care – of things we care for – into the trust of carers

1 I was alerted this week by a Facebook post, advising people to check out where the sewage outlets are located in the rivers and streams of their local community. For this advice we are indebted to The Rivers Trust who have pinpointed all the brown spots.

2 I have to say, this is another example of my feeling akin to the mushroom. You know that old saying: "Like mushrooms, I'm kept in the dark and fed on sh*t". How apt a saying this is here!

3 Now, I am well aware of [Surfers Against Sewage](#). These guys have been around for a long time. Their protest goes way back decades to when sewage was pumped into the sea - raw. One of the problems with that particular government strategy, was that with the coming of each high tide – the effluent kept coming back. And the surfers - and many other beach lovers - got fed up with that and who could blame them.

If memory serves me correctly, the surfers and the EU were responsible for bringing about a sea-change in policy which saw a massive, new and clean approach to how society deals with its mess. It caused a change in the state of our seas as well – and our beaches!

But not so much in our rivers and streams - it seems!

4 Where I've been in the dark all this time, is in believing - rather stupidly – that there was no problem with sewage in the rivers and streams. Perhaps because I don't fish, don't boat and don't any longer swim in the river – I don't have any knowledge of this practice to discharge sewage in this way.

But now I do – and if you are like me – then you do too.

5 This is surely another example of leaving these domestic issues over to an elected body of MPs to deal with – and they don't. It appears the deeper you dig – the farther you search – the more of this type of story there is to be found. The government fails - and we pay for that!

6 [The Rivers Trust](#) have an informative website which enables people to locate their local rivers and check the places to be avoided – especially after heavy rain! Yes – that's where we have got to, in this high-tech world of ours. I gather there isn't such a big problem of eye-balling a floater on your swim

and worse still, ingesting one – unless there's been some heavy rain. This is how far we have come in this modern world of ours.

7 On a quick exploration of The Rivers Trust website these guys are into all kinds of great things. Under the heading of their **Work**, they list:

- Building Nature Based Solutions
- Guiding water stewardship
- Advising land managers
- Planting trees for water
- Restoring rivers
- Cleaning up rivers
- Supporting local partnerships
- Data & evidence
- Working with Communities
- Schools and youth groups

How great does all that sound!

8 The page we need to look at first however is this one on [sewage](#).

On the page they say this:

"Sewage is discharged into rivers across the UK and Ireland on a daily basis. This isn't an isolated problem; it occurs up and down the country, affecting urban city centre rivers and pristine chalk streams alike."

Horrendous and completely unknown to me - until this week.

On a related and leading page, they say this:

"We want to help you find out where sewage is discharged into rivers, enabling you to make informed decisions about where you swim, paddle, catch and play. Our map below shows where the sewerage network discharges and overflows into rivers. Be warned: you might not like what you discover!"

Well, I already don't thank you.

But I do thank these guys – since it's very nice of them to want to help us in this way.

But what I now want to know is this:

Who is saying – this practice has to stop – it will stop – and if you won't stop it – then we will.?!

9 This alas, is another example of where the People need to realise that leaving domestic issues to government doesn't work – in reality, it has never worked. Perhaps we should put The Rivers Trust in charge of getting sewage dealt with properly. These are People who clearly care.

In fact, don't we need to find the People who do care about the environment – and a host of many other things – and put them in charge of dealing with the domestics.

The principle is a bit like – putting a mother in charge of her new born baby – rather than contract out the job to someone who will do that kind of thing for money. Something tells me the world would be a whole lot better if we did.

Think about that – it could work – and I believe we will discover it is the only way it will work.

CONNECT'S Maxim and Oath

Connect is only interested in finding and sharing the TRUTH.
In search of that TRUTH, we only pose questions – we have no answers.

By: David Charles

Contact/Source: Tetbury CONNECT: [Magazine](#)

3 [LINK](#): Surfers Against Sewage – campaign group

6 [LINK](#): The Rivers Trust

8 [LINK](#): Pinpoint the sewage outlets near you / us



Opportunity to join the CONNECT [team and network](#)

END