

## Farming for cleaner rivers and seas

Local authorities, water companies, communities, businesses, schools and volunteers are tackling sources of pollution in your area. However, in some catchments up to 40% of the contaminating faecal indicator organisms (FIOs) in the water come from agriculture so we're asking farmers to help.

Below is a checklist of the actions you can take to help cleaner rivers and seas where people swim and paddle AND your farm! Please let us know what you're already doing and pledge to do at least one more:

Actions to reduce pollution:	Already doing	Pledge to do	Benefits to farming, the environment and bathing waters:
<b>1. Farm infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain guttering</li> <li>• Minimise open yard areas - roof</li> <li>• Separate clean &amp; dirty water</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Reduces slurry volume</li> <li>✓ Improves yard conditions</li> <li>✓ Helps bathing waters by reducing bacteria in water</li> </ul>
<b>2. Access</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relocate gateways to prevent run-off</li> <li>• Tracks: resurface, install cross drains, ensure they're not a pathway</li> <li>• Build bridges for livestock to cross watercourses</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Reduces risk of poaching and soil compaction</li> <li>✓ Prevents erosion</li> <li>✓ Reduces risk to livestock of waterborne diseases, injury or loss</li> <li>✓ Helps bathing waters</li> </ul>
<b>3. River edge</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grass buffer strips</li> <li>• Fencing</li> <li>• Place livestock feeders away from bankside</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Prevents bank trampling</li> <li>✓ Safeguards livestock</li> <li>✓ Reduces reseeding costs</li> <li>✓ Delivers greening requirements</li> <li>✓ Helps bathing waters</li> </ul>
<b>4. Hedgerows &amp; woodland</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plant hedgerows or trees alongside watercourses for protection</li> <li>• Plant them to intercept water on slopes</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Provides shelter</li> <li>✓ Manages run-off zones to reduce soil and nutrient loss</li> <li>✓ Wood fuel source</li> </ul>
<b>5. Infield options</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide troughs, pasture pumps or cattle drinking bays for livestock</li> <li>• In-field grass strips or beetle banks to avoid erosion</li> <li>• Manage stubble over winter</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Delivers clean drinking water</li> <li>✓ Manages high risk run-off zones to reduce soil &amp; nutrient loss</li> <li>✓ Improves soil structure</li> </ul>
<b>6. Maize management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disc after harvest</li> <li>• Sow a cover crop</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Reduces run-off risk</li> <li>✓ Achieves Cross Compliance on soils</li> <li>✓ Mop up nutrients over</li> </ul>

Actions to reduce pollution:	Already doing	Pledge to do	Benefits to farming, the environment and bathing waters:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid growing on high risk fields</li> </ul>			winter for next crop ✓ Early season grass
<b>7. Soils</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Choose crop rotations based on soils</li> <li>Test for soil compaction before drilling/planting</li> <li>Remove compaction using the most appropriate method</li> </ul>			✓ Maintains soil structure ✓ Improves drainage ✓ Increases yields ✓ Achieves Cross Compliance on soils
<b>8. Pesticides &amp; herbicides</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure sprayer handling and wash down areas are properly drained</li> <li>Get sprayers tested &amp; calibrated</li> <li>Update certification (Grandfather rights expire Nov 2015)</li> </ul>			✓ Reduces risk of spills & risk of pollution ✓ Accurate sprayer delivery ✓ Compliance with new certification
<b>9. Slurry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collect runoff from dirty yard and leachate from muck heaps</li> <li>Establish enough storage to meet business and regulatory needs (SSAFO)</li> </ul>			✓ Reduces risk of penalties or enforcement action ✓ Maximises financial and nutrient value of slurry and manure ✓ Helps bathing waters
<b>10. Nutrient planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create and follow a nutrient management plan</li> <li>Fertiliser to soil test information</li> <li>Take full account of nutrients in manures</li> </ul>			✓ Maximises fertiliser value of manures ✓ Reduces fertiliser costs ✓ Targets soil deficits to improve productivity

To help our campaign please let us know a bit more about your farm and if you would like to stay up-to-date with our work:

Farm size: \_\_\_\_\_ NVZ area: Y / N Commodity: Livestock \_\_\_\_\_

Dairy \_\_\_\_\_ Arable \_\_\_\_\_ Horticulture \_\_\_\_\_

Pigs \_\_\_\_\_ Poultry \_\_\_\_\_

Nearest River / Catchment: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_