

## Bathing Water at The Lido, Knaresborough

This part of the river Nidd, since its **designation as a Bathing Water in May 2024**, has **weekly water samples** taken by The Environment Agency from one location at The Lido during the bathing season (May to September)

[Google Swimfo or click on [Bathing water profile \(data.gov.uk\)](#)]



To date, of the 11 samples taken so far, 10 have exceeded the 'SUFFICIENT' standard for the bacterium Escherichia coli (**900 cfus per 100ml**). This means that the water quality is **not sufficient** i.e. 'POOR' for swimming.

**The latest sample, on July 15 2024** had a concentration of **9300 cfus**.

### This Current Project

Nidd Action Group [Nidd action Group-Home](#) is taking part in a nationwide survey of UK Bathing Waters, as one of groups from **28 bathing waters**, marine and freshwater, using a standard professional protocol to collect and analyse data **during the week commencing July 28<sup>th</sup>2024**.

The Survey is led by Surfers Against Sewage, Watershed and The University of York.

**The purpose** is to evaluate UK Bathing Waters in terms of chemical and genetic elements, including bacteria and pharmaceuticals. Both are good markers of sewage which reaches rivers through a number of routes\*

Water samples are being taken at 4 locations at each Bathing Water (including the one used by EA each week) and combined with daily samples for the seven days

**Analysis of the water** collected will cover

- Nutrient Chemistry concentrations (e.g. Phosphates and Nitrates)
- Pharmaceutical presence and concentrations
- E.coli concentrations - using an innovative and validated citizen-science friendly method of inoculating petrifilms with river water and photographing and counting the bacterial colonies that grow
- Genetic analysis, including anti-microbial resistance genes, will enable a determination of the predominant source of the pollution – human or other animal.

The results will be publicly available in September 2024

*\*NAG sampled 4 locations in Bilton Beck in February 2024, and laboratory-tested samples identified **14** different pharmaceuticals there, with the second highest cumulative concentration of pharmaceuticals in the project in Yorkshire.*

Nidd Action Group, July 28, 2024