

NAG sampling from July 28th to August 3rd 2024 at Knaresborough Lido

Summary:

Nidd Action Group [Nidd action Group-Home](#) volunteers have completed our part of a Nationwide survey of UK Bathing Waters. The weather was fine all week, with only a small amount of rain in the early hours of August 1st.

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

Citizen groups from **28 bathing waters** used a standard professional protocol to collect and analyse data **every day during the week**.

The frozen water samples will be sent to the University of York for analysis, with the results being publicly available in September 2024.

Background:

The survey's purpose is to evaluate UK Bathing Waters in terms of chemical and genetic elements, including bacteria and pharmaceuticals. These are good markers of sewage which can reach rivers through human sewage, treated or untreated, or from agricultural or urban runoff.

Analysis of the water collected covered

- Nutrient Chemistry concentrations (e.g. Phosphates and Nitrates)
- Pharmaceutical presence and concentrations
- E.coli concentrations - using an innovative and validated 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 another animal.

Nidd Action Group

7 August 2024