Data sources

The datasets behind our sewage alerts, pollution risk forecasts and overflow map.

Various data sources are used to power our alerts and sewage mapping. Some are publicly available; others have been granted to us under specific access agreements and are not available for public use.

Sewage alerts

Water company	Data source	Description	Access	Link
Southern Water	Southern Water Rivers & Seas Watch API	Real-time access to storm overflow discharges and impacts on bathing waters from Rivers & Seas Watch modelled predictions	Private — used under data sharing agreement	Not publicly available
South West Water	South West Water WaterFit Live	Email system that triggers when there is a modelled impact at a bathing water	Private — used under data sharing agreement	Not publicly available
Wessex Water	National Storm Overflow Hub + Threshold Time Mapping	Real-time status of storm overflow discharge events. This is then paired with unique threshold information that Wessex Water supply us with.	**Public**	Link to data source
Anglian Water	Anglian Water BeachAware	Anglian Water's model (BeachAware) notifies us via email. A sewage alert is only raised if the system predicts a reduction in bathing water quality below the 'Sufficient' standard at relevant nearby beaches.	Private — used under data sharing agreement	Not publicly available
Scottish Water	Scottish Storm Overflow Data	Real-time status of storm overflow discharge events.	**Public**	Link to data source
Thames Water	Thames Water API	Real-time status of storm overflow discharge events.	**Public**	Link to data source
Northumbrian Water	National Storm Overflow Hub	Real-time status of storm overflow discharge events.	**Public**	Link to data source
Yorkshire Water	Yorkshire Water Storm Overflow Data	Real-time status of storm overflow discharge events.	Private — used under data sharing agreement	Not publicly available
Welsh Water	Welsh Water Storm Overflow Data	Real-time status of storm overflow discharge events.	Private — used under data sharing agreement	Not publicly available
United Utilities	National Storm Overflow Hub	Real-time status of storm overflow discharge events.	**Public**	Link to data source

Pollution risk forecast alerts

Source	Coverage	Description	Access	Link
EA Pollution Risk Forecasts	England	Predictive water quality alerts, factoring in tide, wind and weather.	**Public**	Link to data source
Natural Resources Wales Pollution Risk Forecasts	Wales	Predictive water quality alerts, factoring in tide, wind and weather.	**Public**	Link to data source
SEPA Pollution Risk Forecasts	Scotland	Predictive water quality alerts, factoring in tide, wind and weather.	**Public**	Link to data source
Warleigh Weir Predicted Water Quality	Wessex Water region	Wessex Water's predictive alerts for water quality at Warleigh Weir.	Private — used under data sharing agreement	Not publicly available

Overflow map

Source	Coverage	Description	Access	Link
English Storm Overflow Data	England (exc. Thames Water)	Real-time status of storm overflow discharge events.	**Public**	Link to data source
Scottish Storm Overflow Data	Scotland	Real-time status of storm overflow discharge events.	**Public**	Link to data source
Welsh Water Storm Overflow Data	Wales	Real-time status of storm overflow discharge events.	Private — used under data sharing agreement	Not publicly available

About this document

Surfers Against Sewage is an independent charity. Registered charity number 1145877. Unit 2, Wheal Kitty Workshops, St. Agnes, Cornwall, TR5 0RD.

01872 553001 · info@sas.org.uk · datahq.sas.org.uk