



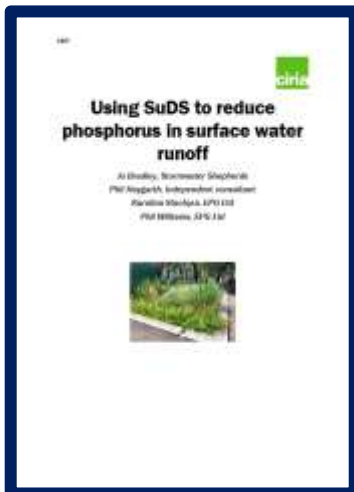
Spring Newsletter for our Zero Pollution Supporters 2023

Hello and welcome to our newsletter; we hope that you are all well and that you have been keeping up to date with our activities on the Stormwater Shepherds UK website at

<https://www.stormwatershepherds.org.uk/>

We are very excited about the opportunities for Stormwater Shepherds UK during 2023. It's going to be an incredible year for stormwater management as there is so much press interest in sewer overflows, and the government are hoping to introduce mandatory sustainable drainage (SuDS) on all new homes built in the future. If new homes have sustainable drainage, there will be less stormwater rushing into our sewers when it rains and overflows are less likely to discharge sewage. Stormwater Shepherds UK will work hard this year to make the very best of these opportunities to improve stormwater management, not only on new developments, but also in existing developments, and in our towns and cities.

We were really pleased to be asked to help Natural England and CIRIA to write new guidance on the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems to reduce phosphorus pollution from residential developments across parts of England where river pollution is unacceptably high.



The new CIRIA guidance is helping developers to reduce pollution



We visited this new housing estate in Salford and it has no green space and no sustainable drainage. Stormwater Shepherds wants to see an end to developments like this.

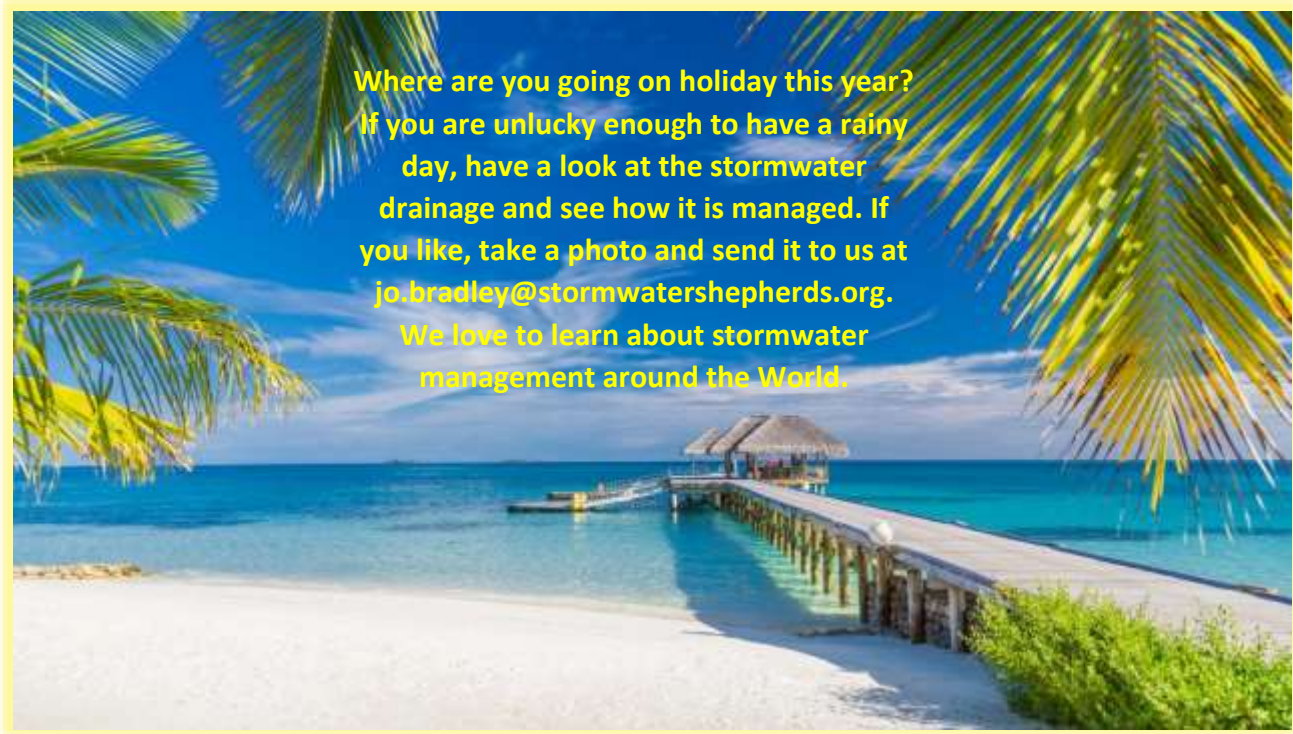


Our Director of Operations, Jo Bradley, has attended some influential events since Christmas, taking the opportunity to meet other professionals working in the field of stormwater management. She was at the WWT Wastewater Conference in Birmingham where she Chaired a panel discussion about the future delivery of SuDS and the skills gap that we might face if we do not move quickly to train new SuDS professionals with experience of water quality management and ecology.



In preparation for some work on gully pots and their role in pollution prevention, Jo went out on site to see the gully-pot maintenance team in action in Lancashire





Where are you going on holiday this year?
If you are unlucky enough to have a rainy day, have a look at the stormwater drainage and see how it is managed. If you like, take a photo and send it to us at jo.bradley@stormwatershepherds.org. We love to learn about stormwater management around the World.

Your role as a Zero Pollution Supporter. You will have seen a lot of information in the news recently about the level of pollution from sewage spills and the actions of the water companies. Find out who your water company is and have a look at their website to see what plans they have to reduce spills from storm overflows. You can read their their business plans and make comments on them and whether you think that they are good enough. *You can reduce your own impact of the spills from sewer overflows by checking that your drains are connected properly.* Have a look at the Connect Right website here: <http://www.connectright.org.uk/>

Did you know: If you flush wet wipes and make-up wipes down your toilet, they can lead to blockages or spill over into rivers and onto beaches.

Find out more here:

<https://environmentagency.blog.gov.uk/2015/08/28/love-your-loo/>



This summer it is going to be really important to provide water for wildlife in your garden. Can you put out a shallow dish of rainwater and fill it up every day? You'll be surprised to see the creatures that may visit.



We are delighted to have you 'on-board' as a Zero Pollution Ambassador. Let us know if you find out about grants and funds that you think that we may be able to bid into so that we can deliver more projects to improve stormwater management.

And let us know if we can help you too; we can help you to organise a litter-pick, or talk to local groups about plastic pollution and the impacts of stormwater.

Have a good summer ☀️

Stormwater Shepherds UK is a registered Charity, number 1195055