

River Blitz



Bristol Avon RiverBlitz

Mass participation citizen science to raise awareness of the issues facing our local rivers and watercourses

The Bristol Avon RiverBlitz is a fantastic citizen science project that connects people and communities to their local watercourses and enables all people, regardless of age or background, to take an active role in exploring and protecting the local natural environment.

The event is run by the Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART) and takes place over a week every summer with hundreds of volunteers signing up to take part. BART supply each group of volunteers with testing kits so they can take water quality samples from their local watercourses. The volunteers also record observations, such as signs of pollution, invasive species, and information on the area surrounding the site.

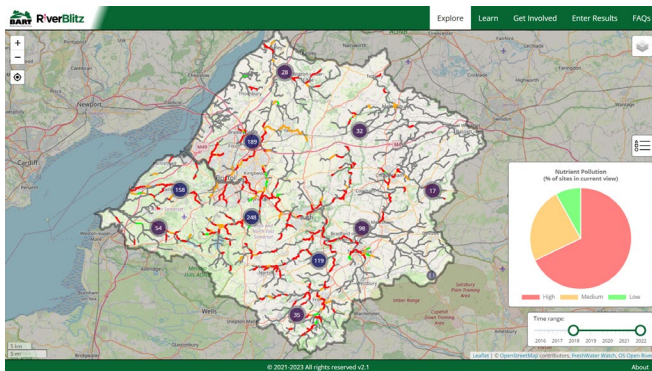
Through the RiverBlitz events, BART can get a snapshot of the health of the rivers across the whole catchment and investigate in greater detail the sources of pollutants that could be impacting the watercourses.

In 2020, BART were looking to expand the project by raising its public profile and increasing the numbers of volunteers taking part. Riskaware facilitated this by providing a platform to streamline the way volunteers registered and entered their results.

The platform Riskaware developed allowed BART's team to track the volunteers who registered, manage the distribution of their water sampling kits, and check the results once they had been recorded.

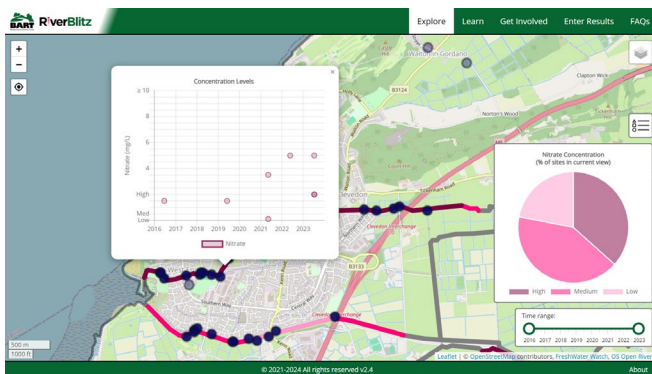
Results gathered by the volunteers were made publicly available through the platform via BART's website. Being able to visualise the data allowed BART to target their conservation efforts more effectively. Whilst having the data publicly accessible helped them raise awareness of the challenges being faced by the rivers and watercourses in their catchment.

RiverBlitz Data Visualisation

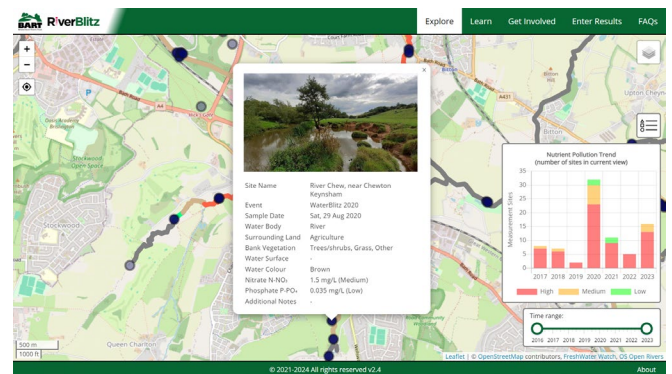


BART source data across their whole catchment

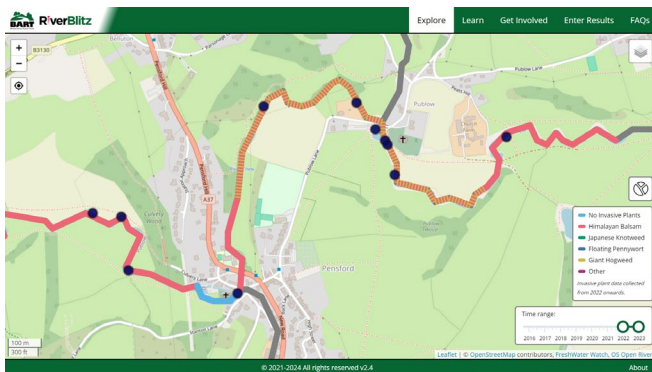
Volunteers register and enter data through the platform



Results have been gathered since 2016



Volunteers include photographs of their sites



Observations like invasive species are recorded

Information is included to aid understanding of results

To see the data the volunteers have collected go to... bristolavonriverstrust.org/riverblitz/

For more information or to discuss how we can work together, please contact us on:

Email
info@riskaware.co.uk



Phone
+44 (0) 117 929 1058

Whitefriars, Lewins Mead
Bristol, BS1 2NT

