

The **Sustainable Water Network (SWAN)** is an umbrella network of thirty of Ireland's leading environmental groups working together to protect Ireland's waters by participating in the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) . SWAN comprises both national and local groups, representing a vast range of specialist and local knowledge and expertise in all areas of Ireland's aquatic environment. The formation of this network is a significant milestone on the path to real protection for our rivers, lakes, estuaries, coastal and ground waters. From Lough Swilly in the north to the Lakes of Killarney in the south, from our coastal waters to inland lakes, SWAN groups have been independently championing and defending Ireland's waters for many years. Now we are joining forces.

Our Mission:

To protect and enhance the quality of Ireland's waters and to promote the ecologically sustainable management of all our aquatic resources through active participation in the implementation of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) .

Our Aims:

1. To increase public awareness of the importance of good water quality for:

- Public health;
- Ecosystems and biodiversity;
- Leisure & tourism and
- Economic & environmental sustainability and to show how, through the WFD, Ireland's aquatic resources will be protected for future generations;

2. To facilitate the participation of all interested environmental groups in the implementation of the Water Framework Directive, especially at local and regional (River Basin District) levels;

3. To provide informed critical analysis at all stages of implementation of the Water Framework Directive.

SWAN partners will be working closely together at local, national and River Basin District level to ensure that the Water Framework Directive is implemented in the spirit as well as the letter of the law.

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SWAN Partners

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Radical new EU legislation has been put in place to protect Europe's waters. **The Water Framework Directive** may sound like just another piece of EU jargon but don't let the name put you off. This is one of the most progressive and exciting pieces of environmental legislation to emerge from the EU. If it is implemented properly, it has the potential to put an end to all major water pollution in Ireland. Yes, it sounds incredible. But the Sustainable Water Network (SWAN) believes that with awareness and involvement from communities and ordinary people throughout the country, it is possible.

The EU Water Framework Directive

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/index_en.html

The Sustainable Water Network (SWAN)

<http://www.swanireland.ie/>