

Using the ARK 'Muddy Walks' App

Overview

We need you to be the eyes and ears of the catchment and the ARK Muddy Walks App is an easy way to for you report potential pollution sources via your smartphone.

By answering a few questions you can record and report the location, type, impact and photographic evidence of rural diffuse pollution sources.

The ARK Muddy Walks App uses free software provided by Imperial College called Epi-Collect 5.

We will share the information you provide with the Environment Agency, Thames Water and partners who can help address the problems that you identify.

Using the app does not replace reporting serious pollution incidents – if you see something that requires immediate attention please still use the EA Hotline on 0800 807060.

How to Get Started

1. Go to either the Google Play or App Store on your smartphone and search for *Epicollect 5*.



2. Download the software onto your smartphone and once complete open the app, click the + *Add Project* tab in the top right corner of your screen. In the search bar that appears type *ARK Muddy Walks*.
3. Identify the ARK Muddy Walks project in the list of results and then press the icon to join the project and access the application.



How to Make a Report

1. Open Epicollect 5 on your smartphone.
2. Click on the ARK Muddy Walks icon.
3. Click on the + *Add Entry* tab in the top right of your screen.
4. Answer the questions (the app will automatically complete some questions for you e.g. date and location, etc.)
5. On the last page, click the *Save Entry* tab.
6. Your entry is now placed in a list, to send the data to ARK you need to click the *Upload Now* tab followed by the *Upload Data* and *Upload Photos* tab



Support

If you have any difficulty using Epicollect 5 or are interested developing your own app to collect, record and store information from your day to day activities then please email linda@riverkennet.org.

Once you have uploaded your data you'll be able to see it either as a list, or on a map, along with the photo you have taken. ARK will review data once a week and use it to target actions in the catchment.

If you are reporting evidence of a serious pollution risk to a watercourse or its surrounding environment e.g. overflowing sewers & drains, dead fish, soapy or foul discharges, then please call the Environment Agency Incident Line on 0800 807060 and the Thames Water Hotline on 0800 316980 and providing them with the details captured on your form. You can view your form in the 'Saved Report' list prior to it being uploaded.