

18 September 2018

Reading's Big River Clean Up – come and join in!

Action for the River Kennet and Reading University's Reading Knights canoe club would like to invite people to come and join the Big River Clean Up in Reading on Saturday 24th November from 11am to 3pm.

For the first time Action for the River Kennet (ARK) are joining forces with the University Canoe Club to clean up the rivers in Reading. Whilst the canoeists grab rubbish from the water, ARK will provide a land team to clean up the banks. Volunteers from Green Park have already committed to help and everyone is welcome.

Action for the River Kennet's Martin Kent said 'This is an exciting partnership and means we can make a real improvement to Reading's waterways, but to make it work we need lots of people to join in. **Everyone is welcome and everything you need will be provided, just come dressed for the weather**'.

Jasmin Urwick from the Reading Knights canoe club said 'It will be fantastic to cover such a large area in one day and hopefully raise a lot of awareness about conservation work on the rivers. This is a great example of students giving something back to our local community and environment.'

Since Blue Planet 2 we have all become more aware of what a massive problem plastic pollution poses in our seas, and much of the plastic reaches the sea through our rivers. By cleaning up our rivers we make a difference not just to our own town but to the seas too.

The event is being sponsored by Co-op Group. Martin Jex, a store Manager in Reading said 'We are proud to be sponsoring the start of the east end River Kennet clean up with a £1000 donation. This will start a great relationship for us to build on community participation, get environmentally aware and hopefully get schools involved as an educational part of the curriculum, to show how precious our waterways are'.

Meet at Fobney Car Park off Island Road, Reading, opposite the Reading Recycling Centre. Please let martin.kent@riverkennet.org know if you would like to join in, or call 07850 450695 to find out more.

More information: www.riverkennet.org or 01672 512700
