



WATER QUALITY AUDIT



INTRODUCTION

Water is one of our most valuable natural resources. Football Clubs can play an important role in protecting water quality, reducing pollution risks and helping to safeguard rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and groundwater across Wales.

This audit has been developed to help Clubs understand how water is used and managed within their facilities, identify potential risks to local water environments and highlight opportunities for improvement.

Completing this audit will help your Club establish a baseline understanding of water quality-related issues and identify practical actions that can be included within your Together Greener Action Plan.

This resource will help your Club to:

- Understand where your water comes from and where wastewater goes.
- Identify potential pollution risks on site.
- Assess how Club operations may impact local water environments.
- Improve protection of rivers, streams, wetlands and groundwater.
- Increase awareness of water quality issues amongst members and volunteers.
- Identify opportunities for future action and improvement.





WHY AUDIT?

Why Conduct a Water Quality Audit?

Water is one of our most valuable natural resources and plays a vital role in maintaining healthy ecosystems, communities, and sporting environments.

Football clubs have a unique opportunity to protect and improve local water quality through simple, practical actions that reduce pollution risks and support the health of rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, and groundwater across Wales.

A water quality audit helps your Club take a structured look at how water is used, managed, and discharged across your facilities. It provides a clear baseline understanding of potential risks and highlights where small changes can make a meaningful environmental difference.

By completing the audit, your Club can identify practical improvements that can be embedded into your Together Greener Action Plan and support long term sustainability goals.

A water quality audit can help your Club:

- Understand water flow on site.
- Spot pollution risks.
- Protect local waterways.
- Improve water use.
- Raise awareness.
- Support compliance.
- Identify quick wins.
- Support your Together Greener goals.
- Show environmental commitment.



AUDIT COMPLETION

Understanding how water enters, moves through and leaves your facility is an important first step in protecting water quality.

This section helps Clubs assess their water supply, drainage systems, wastewater arrangements and identify potential pollution sources around the facility to help protect local ecosystems.

How to Complete the Audit

The audit should ideally be completed by members of your Green Team, facility staff and volunteers who are familiar with the site.

Walk around all accessible areas of your facility and answer the questions below.

Use the notes section to record observations, opportunities or actions that may be required.

Where possible, take photographs to support future planning and monitor progress over time.





WATER QUALITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Water Supply (Water Sources And Infrastructure)

QUESTION	RESPONSE/YES/NO	COMMENTS
Where is your Club's water supplied from?		
Do you know where the main water shut-off valve is located?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Does your Club monitor water consumption?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Have water leaks been identified in the past 12 months?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Does your Club have a water efficiency plan?	Yes ☐ No ☐	



WATER QUALITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Wastewater and Drainage (Water Sources And Infrastructure)

QUESTION	RESPONSE/YES/NO	COMMENTS
Where does your wastewater go? (i.e. Public Sewer / Septic Tank / Treatment System)		
Is your wastewater system regularly maintained?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Do you know where surface water drains are located?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Is a drainage map available for the site?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are drains clearly marked or identified?	Yes ☐ No ☐	



WATER QUALITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Chemicals and Storage (Pollution Risks And Site Management)

QUESTION	YES/NO	COMMENTS
Do you store fuel on site?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Do you store oils, lubricants or machinery fluids on site?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are storage areas protected from spills and leaks?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are spill kits available and accessible?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Have staff or volunteers received spill response guidance?	Yes ☐ No ☐	



WATER QUALITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Grounds Maintenance (Pollution Risks And Site Management)

QUESTION	YES/NO	COMMENTS
Are fertilisers used on Club grounds?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are herbicides used on Club grounds?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are pesticides used on Club grounds?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Is the application recorded and monitored?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are chemicals stored securely and according to guidance?	Yes ☐ No ☐	



WATER QUALITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Waste Management (Pollution Risks And Site Management)

QUESTION	YES/NO	COMMENTS
Could litter enter nearby drains or waterways?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are waste storage areas secure and covered?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are bins located away from drains where possible?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are grass clippings removed responsibly?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are washdown areas managed to prevent polluted runoff from entering drains?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
What happens to grass clippings from your site?	Mulched on site ☐ Collected and removed ☐ Composted ☐ Stored in piles on site ☐ Don't Know ☐	



WATER QUALITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Water Environment Assessment (Biodiversity And The Water Environment)

QUESTION	YES/NO	COMMENTS
Do you know where the nearest waterway is located?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Is your Club adjacent to a stream, river, wetland, pond, lake or coastal area?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Is there a buffer zone between facilities and watercourses?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are there native trees or hedgerows protecting nearby waterways?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are washdown areas managed to prevent polluted runoff from entering drains?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are there opportunities to increase natural habitat around water features?	Yes ☐ No ☐	



WATER QUALITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Biodiversity Features (Biodiversity And The Water Environment)

QUESTION	YES/NO	COMMENTS
Does your site contain ponds, wetlands or sustainable drainage features?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are rain gardens or natural drainage areas present?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are biodiversity areas protected from pollution risks?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Have wildlife or biodiversity surveys been completed?	Yes ☐ No ☐	



WATER QUALITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Protected Areas (Biodiversity And The Water Environment)

QUESTION	YES/NO	COMMENTS
Is your Club located within or near a protected site?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Is the Club within a drinking water catchment area?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Is the Club near a groundwater source?	Yes ☐ No ☐	



WATER QUALITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Club Awareness (Awareness, Monitoring And Engagement)

QUESTION	YES/NO	COMMENTS
Does your Club communicate water conservation messages?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are there signs promoting pollution prevention?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are members encouraged to report leaks or pollution concerns?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Does the Club include water issues within sustainability communications?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Has water quality been discussed by the Club committee?	Yes ☐ No ☐	



WATER QUALITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Partnerships and Community Engagement (Awareness, Monitoring And Engagement)

QUESTION	YES/NO	COMMENTS
Has the club engaged with Welsh Water, Natural Resources Wales or local environmental groups?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Has the Club participated in river, beach or community cleanups?	Yes ☐ No ☐	
Are there opportunities to support local water quality projects?	Yes ☐ No ☐	



WATER QUALITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Water Quality Risk Summary

#	KEY RISKS IDENTIFIED	COMMENTS
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		



WATER QUALITY AUDIT CHECKLIST

Club Name:

Date:

Additional Observations

USE THIS SPACE TO CAPTURE ANY OTHER ISSUES OR OPPORTUNITIES IDENTIFIED DURING THE AUDIT.

Audit completed by:



AUDIT FINDINGS

Once completed, review your responses and identify key strengths, risks, and priority areas for action. This will help your Club understand its current approach to water management and highlight practical steps to reduce environmental impact.

Strong Water Quality Practices

If your club answered “Yes” to many questions, you may already have good systems in place to protect water quality and manage risks effectively.

Your focus should be on:

- Maintaining current good practice.
- Monitoring water use and discharge.
- Reducing any remaining pollution risks.
- Continuing staff and volunteer awareness.

Water Quality Improvement Opportunities

If your club answered “No” to several questions, there may be opportunities to improve how water is managed and protected across your site.

Potential actions could include:

- Improving chemical and waste storage.
- Managing surface water runoff more effectively.
- Reducing water usage across facilities.
- Reviewing cleaning and maintenance practices.
- Strengthening awareness of pollution risks.



FURTHER SUPPORT

Protecting water quality is an important part of creating a more sustainable future for football in Wales. By understanding how water moves through your site, identifying pollution risks and protecting local ecosystems, your Club can make a positive contribution to both the environment and the local community.

Use what you have learned in this resource to:

- Identify potential risks to water quality.
- Improve management of water, drainage and wastewater systems.
- Reduce pollution risks from Club activities.
- Protect local rivers, streams, wetlands and groundwater.
- Engage members in water stewardship.
- Develop actions for your Together Greener Action Plan.

Water quality improvements often go hand in hand with biodiversity enhancement, climate resilience and more sustainable facility management.

Further information on Water can be found at www.faw.cymru/togethergreener-water

If you require support completing this audit, please contact sustainability@faw.cymru