

## Bathing Water Profile for Montrose

Montrose, Scotland

Current water classification <https://www2.sepa.org.uk/BathingWaters/Classifications.aspx>

### Description

Montrose bathing water is located to the east of Montrose town. The sandy beach is about 900 metres long and slopes gently towards the water. The area is popular with families and there are various amenities in the vicinity.

During high and low tides the approximate distance to the water's edge can vary from 60–200 metres. At high tide the water can come right up to the sea wall at East Links, completely covering this stretch of the beach.



### Site details

Local authority	Angus Council
Year of designation	1987
Water sampling location	NO 72853 57869

### Catchment description

The catchment draining into the Montrose bathing water extends to 609 km<sup>2</sup>. The area is predominantly rural (86%), with rural land use divided between arable agriculture and grassland. Approximately 1% of the bathing water catchment is urban. The main population centres are the towns of Montrose and Brechin.

The main rivers in the bathing water catchment are the River South Esk and its tributaries, the Prosen Water, the Noran Water and the Pow Burn.

There are several protected areas either fully or partially within the bathing water and /or the bathing water catchment, including two Special Areas of Conservation, three Special Protection Areas, 15 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and one Ramsar site.

The Strathmore and Fife area was designated as a surface water Nitrate Vulnerable Zone in 2002.

### Risks to water quality

The principal risks and source of wet weather driven short term pollution at this bathing water arise from combined sewer overflows.

Our regulatory and scientific assessment indicates that there are no significant pollution inputs to this bathing water under normal situations.

Map 1: Montrose bathing water



Map 2: Catchment draining into Montrose bathing water



**Improving bathing water quality**

**Improving pollution from sewage and other discharges**

Scottish Water provides most waste water collection and treatment services in Scotland.

Montrose sewage treatment works and its associated overflows, including storm storage and screening, are designed to ensure high water quality at the Montrose bathing water.

**Cyanobacteria (blue-green algae)**

Marine waters are not at risk of cyanobacteria overproduction.

**Algae**

Current information suggests that this bathing water is not at risk of excessive growth of macroalgae (seaweed) or phytoplankton.

**Jellyfish**

There is a possibility of increased numbers of jellyfish in the water during summer months. This is a naturally occurring phenomenon. Most species common to the UK are harmless. The Marine Conservation Society advises to ‘look but don’t touch’.

**Responding to pollution incidents**

Please use our 24 hour hotline (0800 80 70 60) to report pollution. SEPA will investigate the incident and contact other relevant organisations. That may include Scottish Ministers, Scottish Water, the local authority and the relevant health board. Where necessary, measures will be put in place to resolve the problem.

If beach users or bathers are considered to be at risk, the local authority will warn the public by erecting signs at the bathing water. Information will also be available on our website.

SEPA will investigate whenever our sampling identifies pollution.

Beach users are encouraged to use the bins provided or to take litter home. Beach cleaning and litter clean-up is maintained by Angus Council for this bathing water.

**Contact details and information sources**

<p><b>SEPA Arbroath office</b>          62 High Street          Arbroath          DD11 1AW          01241 874370  <a href="http://www.sepa.org.uk">www.sepa.org.uk</a></p>	<p><b>Angus Council</b>          Orchardbank Business Park          Forfar          Angus          DD8 1AN          08452 777 778  <a href="mailto:accessline@angus.gov.uk">accessline@angus.gov.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.angus.gov.uk">www.angus.gov.uk</a></p>	<p><b>Keep Scotland Beautiful</b>          01786 471333  <a href="mailto:beach@ksbscotland.org.uk">beach@ksbscotland.org.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org">www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org</a></p>
<p><b>Scottish Government</b>          Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ</p>		

0131 244 0396 [eqcat@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:eqcat@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

[www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Water/15561/bathingwaters](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Water/15561/bathingwaters)

<b>Version number:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Next review due:</b>
1.0	Nov 2010	
1.1	March 2014	
1.2	June 2015	
1.3	April 2020	
1.4	May 2023	