

IN-PERSON EVENTS | Involving. Informing. Inspiring

CIWEM Urban Drainage Group Annual Conference 2022

8 – 10 November 2022

Hilton Birmingham Metropole

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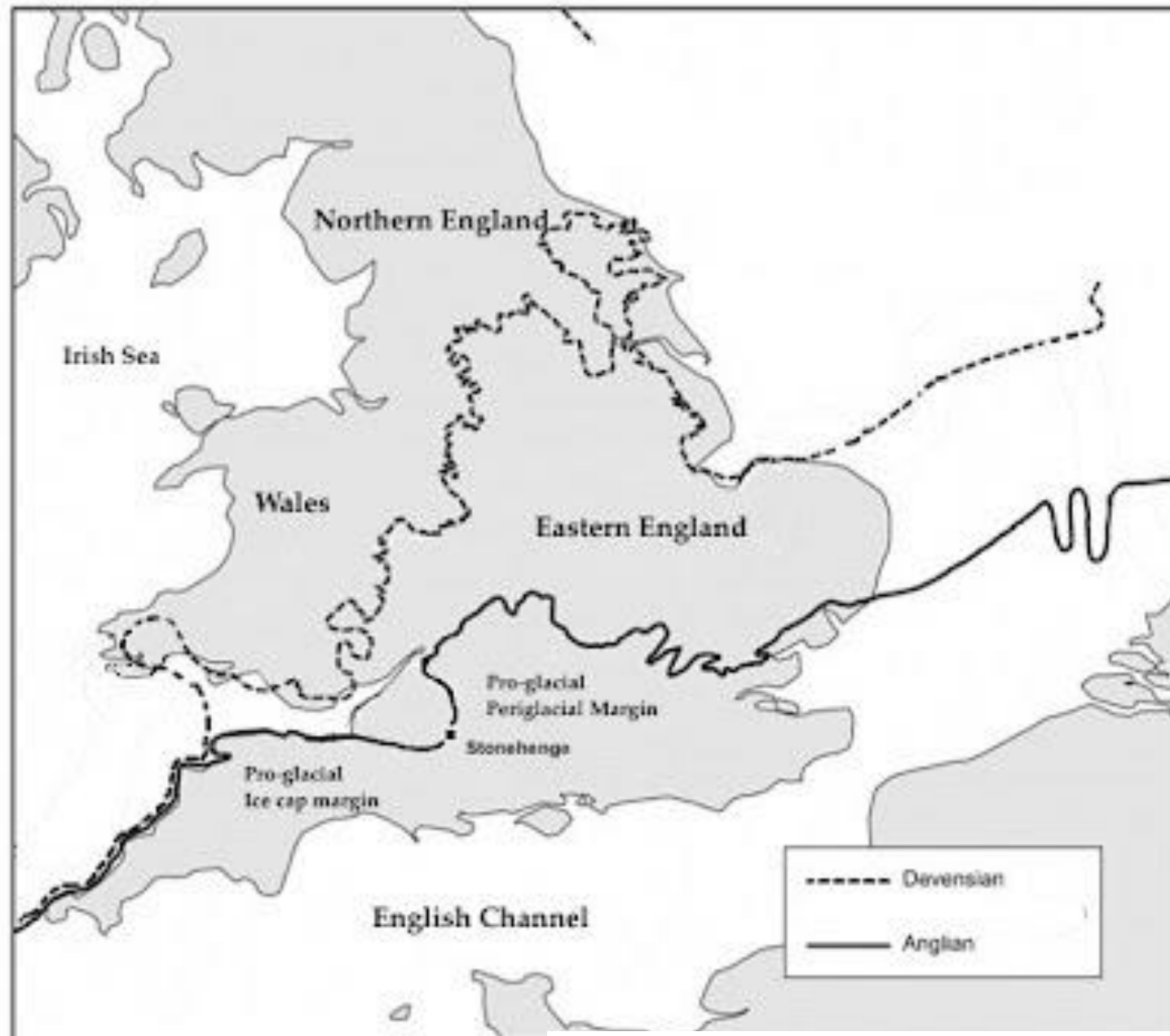
'How we can lift our curse on urban rivers'

Theo Thomas, founder London Waterkeeper



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Hampstead Heath 500,000 BC?



Statute of Merton, 1235 AD





Inclosure Act 1773

1773 CHAPTER 81 13 Geo 3

“Whereas there are several wastes and commons, and several open and common fields, which cannot be improved, cultivated or enjoyed to such great advantage for the owners and occupiers they might be and are capable of an improved course of husbandry, and such wastes or commons of pasture were to be properly drained or otherwise amended.

How arable lands shall be fenced.

In every parish or place in this kingdom where there are open or common field lands all the tillage or arable lands lying in the said open or common fields shall be ordered, fenced, cultivated and improved”

Environment

Paul Brown,
*environment
correspondent*

Fri 22 Sep 2000 02.58
BST

Figures reveal UK rivers cleaner than ever

Rivers and canals in England and Wales are probably cleaner than they have been since the industrial revolution, with 92% classed as good enough to support fish life, according to the [Environment Agency](#).

This 1999 figure is a big improvement on 1990, the year after water privatisation, when 85% of the 25,000 miles of rivers and canals were classified in the top two categories of "good" or "fair".



Britain's rivers come back to life

Wildlife flourishing as pollution is reversed, report reveals

Michael McCarthy, Environment Editor • Friday 31 December 2010 01:00 •  Comments



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Britain's rivers, some of which were little better than sewers a generation ago, are now at their cleanest for more than a century.

In the past decade, our waterways have returned to conditions not seen since before the industrial revolution, the Environment Agency says.

Water quality has improved so much in some places that a number of

Letter

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Our water quality is better than at any time since the Industrial Revolution

From Sir James Bevan, Chief Executive, Environment Agency, UK



What does getting it right look like?



Brave women of Kruščica during their protest in October 2017. © Andrew Burr

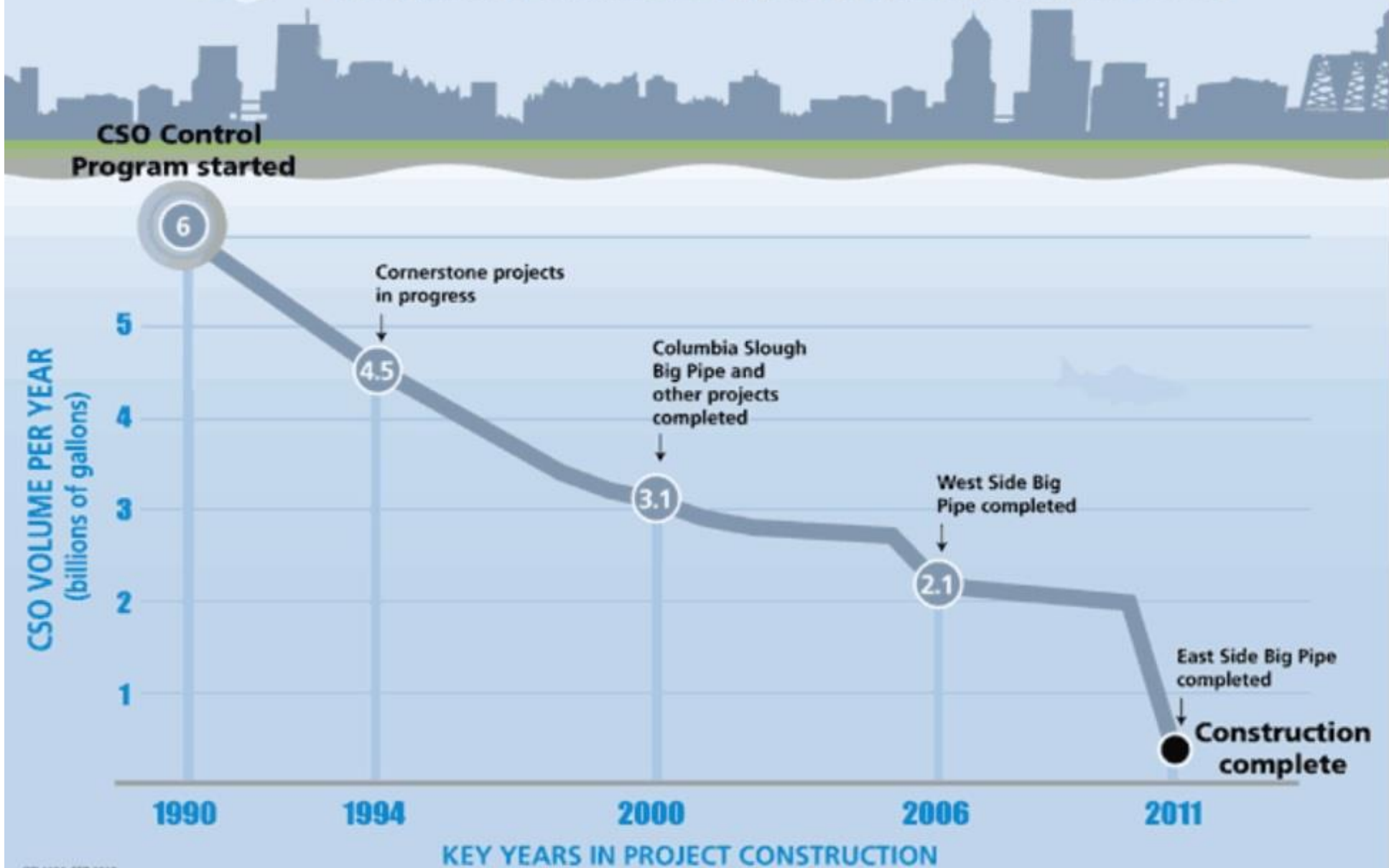
VICTORY FOR THE "BRAVE WOMEN OF KRUŠČICA"



Brent,
London

working for clean rivers

Portland's Combined Sewer Overflow Reductions



**Contain the rain.
Sign up to save.**

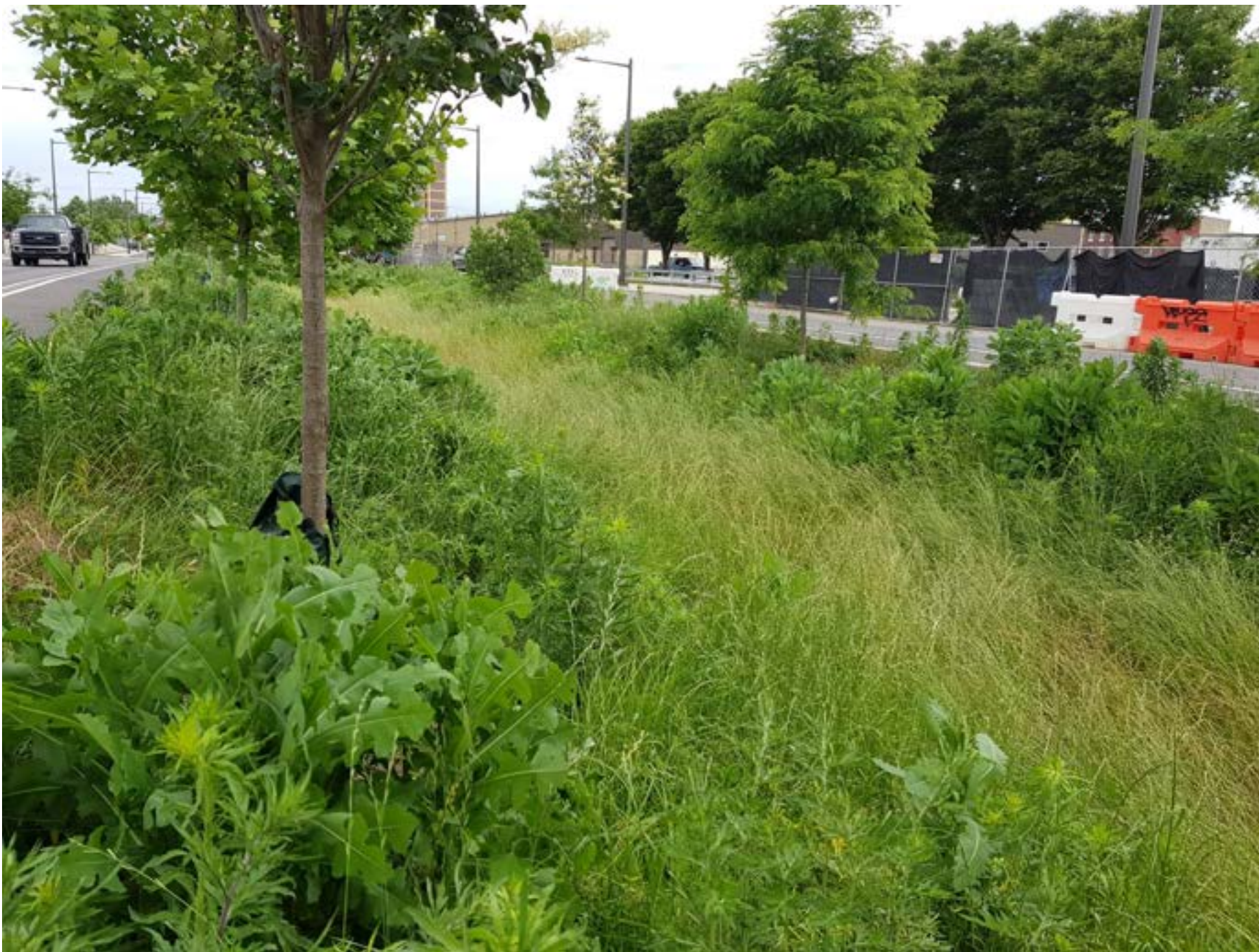


Does the rain that runs off your roof safely soak into the ground on your property instead of going into the city's sewer and stormwater pipes? As a homeowner or renter, you could save up to \$130 a year on the on-site stormwater charges of your bill. Commercial property owners could save even more.

What Are Green Streets?

Green street planters, also known as rain gardens or bioswales, are landscaped areas between the street and the sidewalk that use plants and soil to slow, filter, and clean stormwater running off streets and sidewalks. Traditional stormwater management directs runoff into pipes. A green street manages stormwater before it enters the sewer system. Environmental Services builds and maintains green streets all around Portland.





Philadelphia



Philadelphia Water Department Commissioner Randy E. Hayman Esq., center, led a 2019 ribbon-cutting celebration for a new rain garden that also makes walking safer in Strawberry Mansion.






What is *Green City, Clean Waters*?

To meet state and federal regulations, we created ***Green City, Clean Waters***: a 25-year plan to reduce the volume of stormwater entering combined sewers using green infrastructure and to expand stormwater treatment capacity with traditional infrastructure improvements.

The effort officially began in 2011 and Philadelphia is scheduled to meet pollution reduction goals by 2036, in accordance with our **Long Term Control Plan**.

State and federal regulations, including [sections of the Clean Water Act](#) , require Philadelphia to reduce at least 85 percent of this pollution—or face steep fines.



Theo Thomas, founder London Waterkeeper

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