


# Saving water in our workplace

Become a water efficiency whizz today



**How have  
you used water  
today?**



**Jot down  
your list**



**H<sub>2</sub>WOAH**

Each person in the UK  
uses 150 litres of water  
a day on average.

**Water is a precious  
and limited resource...**

**70%**  
of earth is covered in water.

But only

**2%**

is suitable for drinking.

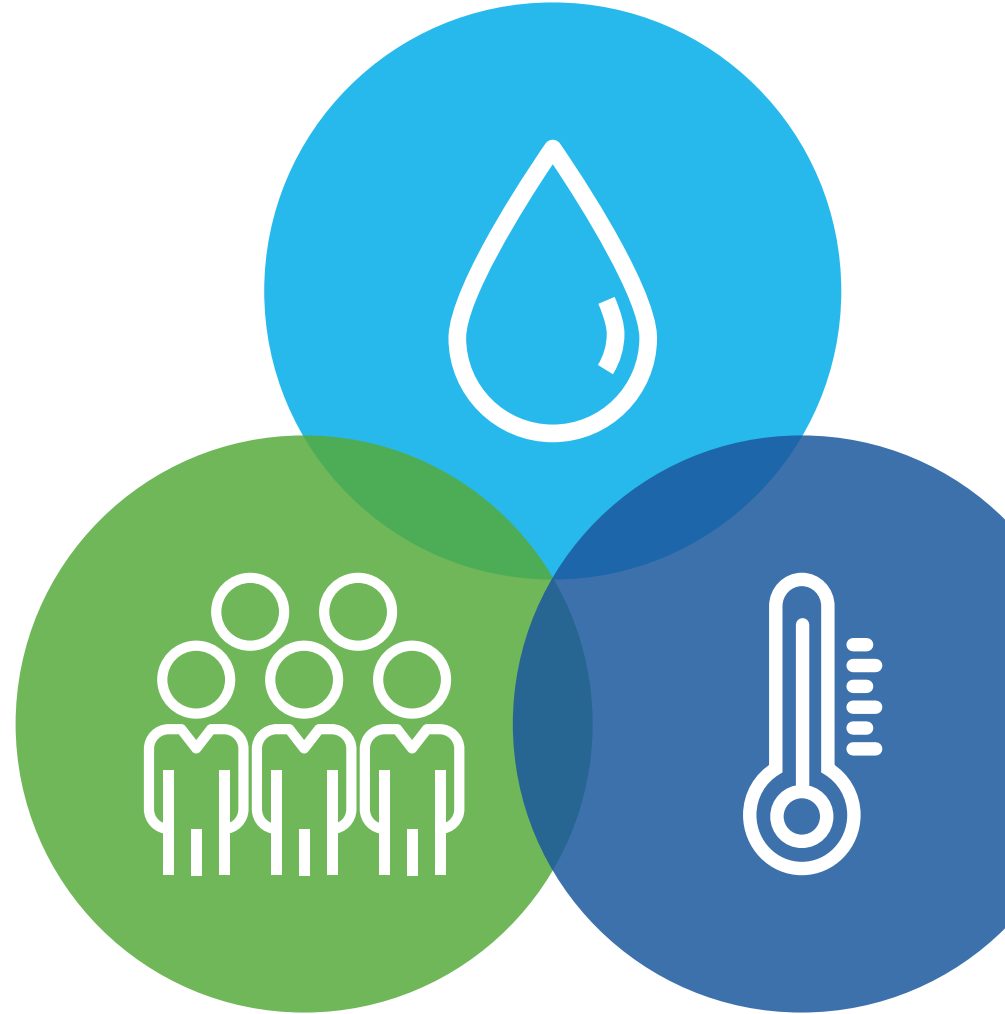


But  
less  
than

**1%**

of it is actually fresh.

As the world **population continues to grow** and **temperatures get warmer**, the **demand for water is higher** than ever.



## The state of water use today

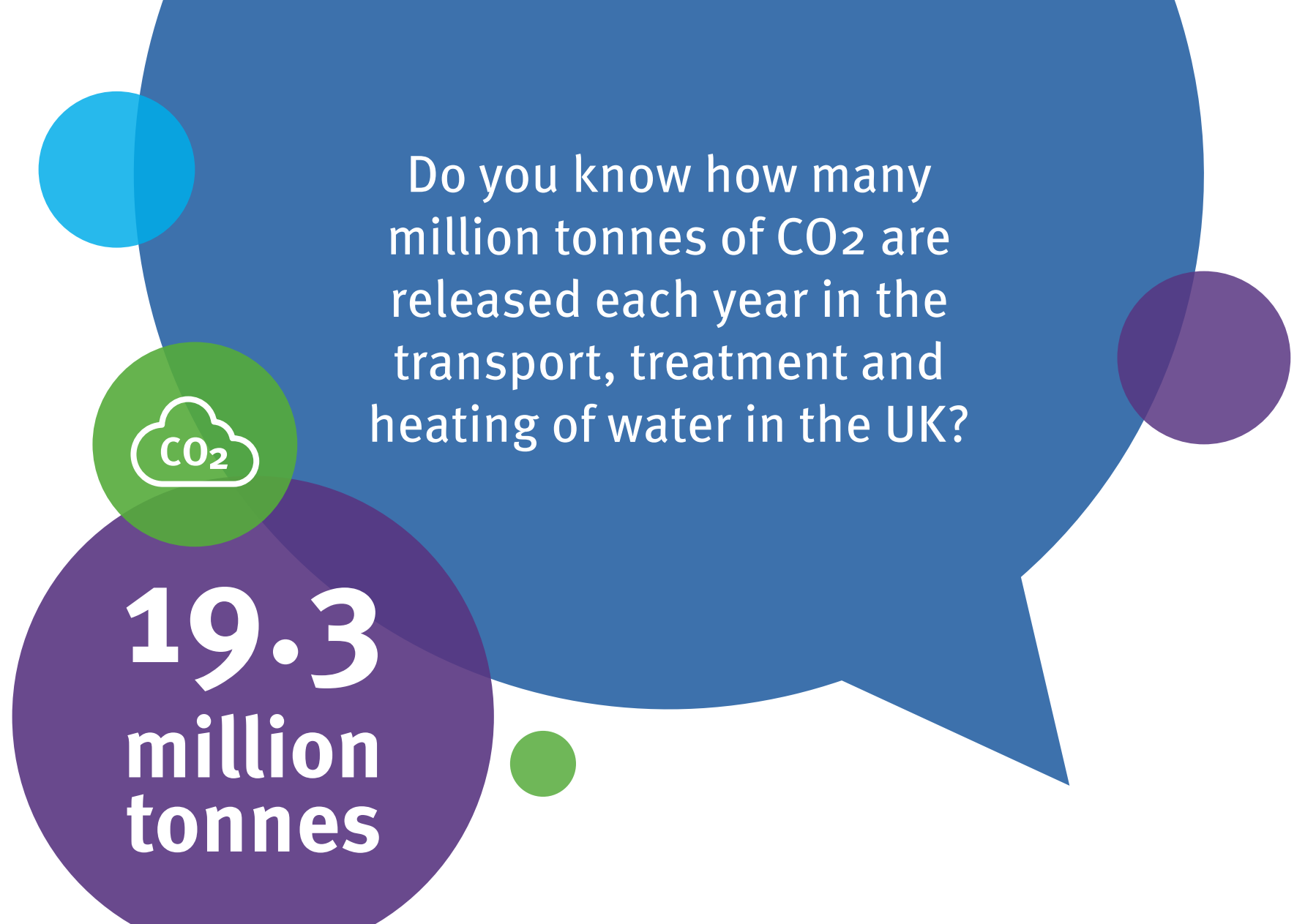
It's vital that we're aware of the financial and environmental cost to **every single drop** of water we use, both as individuals and as a business.

Do you know how many million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> are released each year in the transport, treatment and heating of water in the UK?



Jump to the next slide  
for the answer.





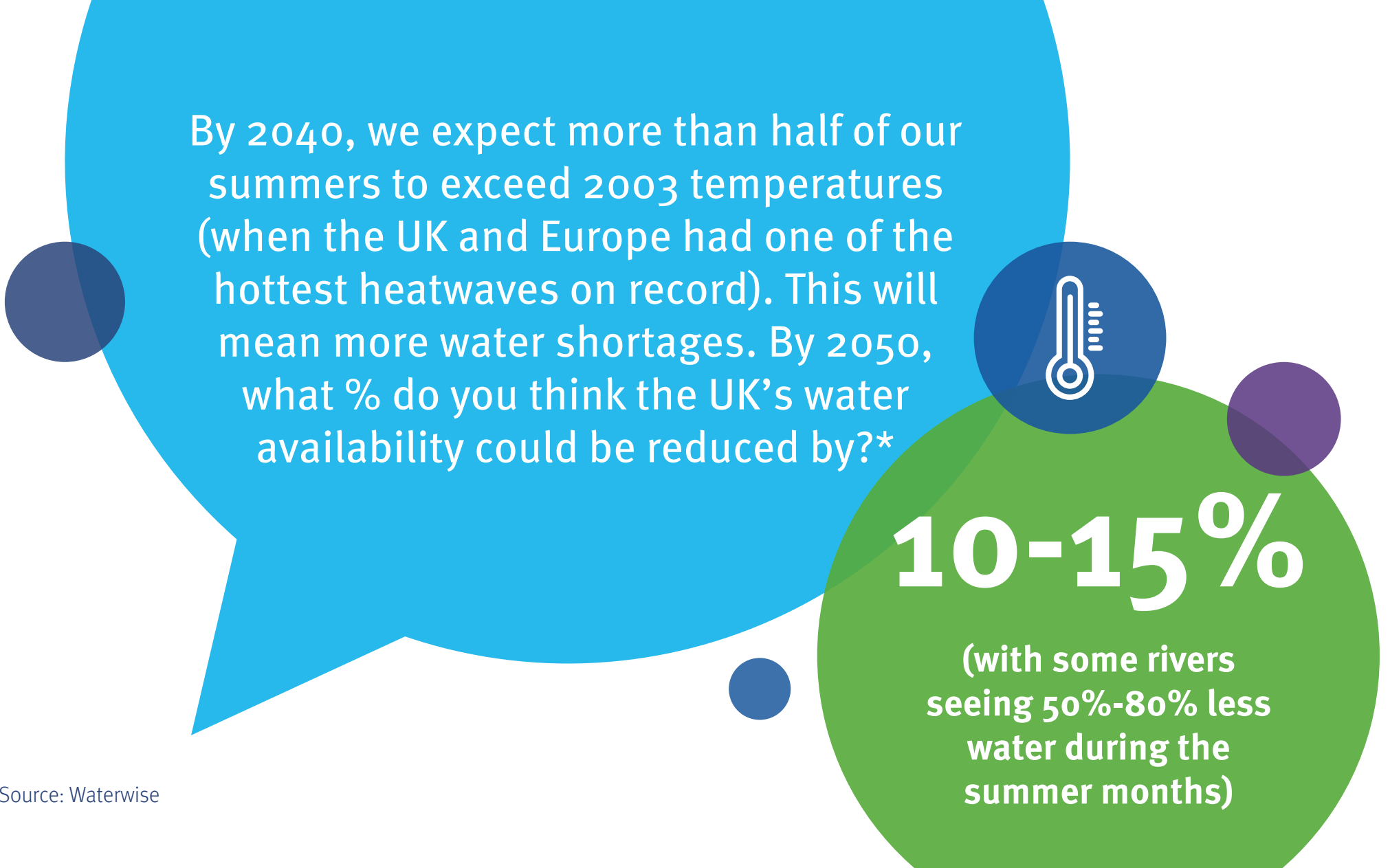
Do you know how many  
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**19.3**  
million  
tonnes

By 2040, we expect more than half of our summers to exceed 2003 temperatures (when the UK and Europe had one of the hottest heatwaves on record). This will mean more water shortages. By 2050, what % do you think the UK's water availability could be reduced by?\*



Jump to the next slide  
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**10-15%**

(with some rivers seeing 50%-80% less water during the summer months)

\*Source: Waterwise

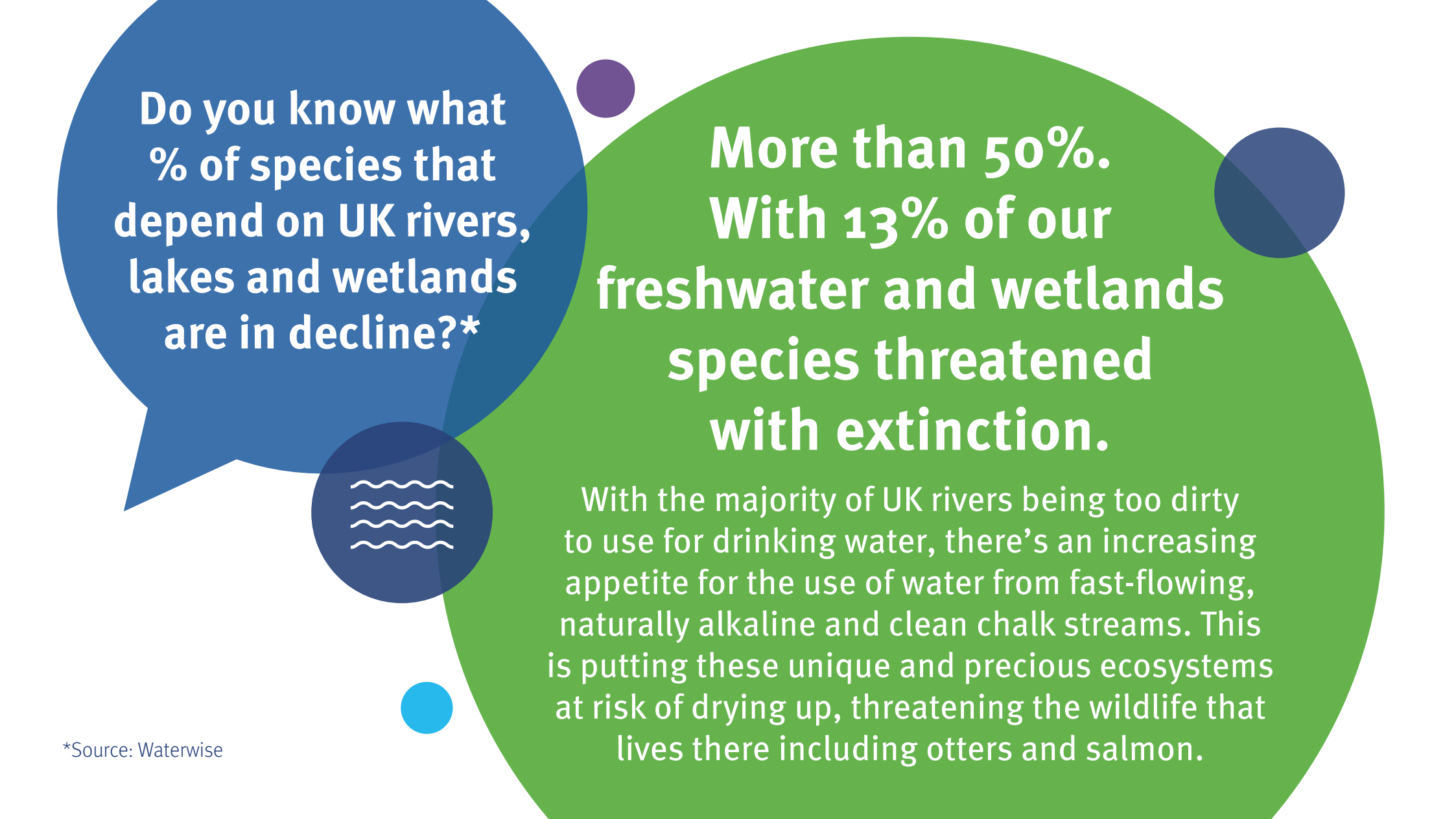


Do you know what  
% of species that  
depend on UK rivers,  
lakes and wetlands  
are in decline?\*



Jump to the next slide  
for the answer.

\*Source: Waterwise

The infographic features a large green circle on the right and a blue speech bubble on the left. A dark blue circle with a white wavy line icon is positioned between them. Several smaller circles in purple, dark blue, and light blue are scattered around the main shapes.

**Do you know what  
% of species that  
depend on UK rivers,  
lakes and wetlands  
are in decline?\***

**More than 50%.  
With 13% of our  
freshwater and wetlands  
species threatened  
with extinction.**

With the majority of UK rivers being too dirty to use for drinking water, there's an increasing appetite for the use of water from fast-flowing, naturally alkaline and clean chalk streams. This is putting these unique and precious ecosystems at risk of drying up, threatening the wildlife that lives there including otters and salmon.

\*Source: Waterwise

# Why save water?

1

## Save money

- Over 90% of water bills are made up of the wholesale cost of the water we use, so using less will have a big impact on bottom lines.
- Using less water also results in a saving on energy costs, as it means heating less water

2

## Reduce water waste

- By saving water, we reduce the amount of waste water that goes down the drain. (This also benefits businesses' bottom lines.)

3

## Help the environment

- Much of the water we use is taken from lakes and streams.
- Cutting back on the amount of water we use helps preserve natural resources, and protect delicate ecosystems and precious wildlife.

4

## Reduce your carbon footprint

- Processing, heating and transporting water releases CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere.
- By using less water, we help cut emissions that contribute to global warming.



# Be a champion of change

We've listed some  
useful steps you can  
take to become more  
water efficient in  
your workplace and  
outdoor spaces...

# Shake things up: Saving water in the kitchen

## The cold, hard truth

Waiting for the tap to run cold can waste 10 litres of water every day. Pop a bottle in the fridge instead.

### Home in on hot water

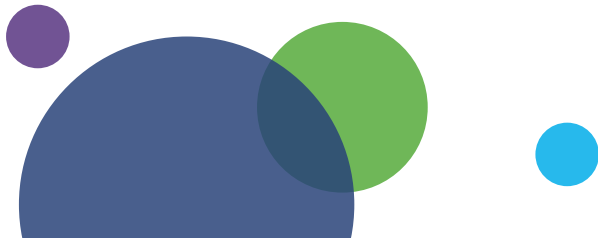
- Investing in an eco-boiler, that heats the water as you need it and dispenses boiling water instantly, is a great way to save time, money, energy and water over the long-term when compared to a traditional kettle, which can be over-boiled and inefficient.

### Check your equipment

- If you have a dishwasher, glasswasher or use a washing machine, make sure you buy the most water-efficient equipment, not just the most energy-efficient.
- Look out for the water label when purchasing appliances.
- Remember to use eco settings on all of your equipment where possible, as they use less energy and water and still get things clean.

### Get oil disposal right

- Safe disposal of fat, oil and grease will help prevent potential leaks.
- Don't put these waste products down drains as they can solidify later and cause plumbing problems.
- Instead use grease separators, removers and dosing units, like these from Grease Guru's website: [greaseguru.co.uk/products](https://greaseguru.co.uk/products)



# Your loo needs you:

## Saving water in the bathroom

### Tap fact

A flowing tap produces between six to 15 litres of water every minute.

#### Toilets

- Use efficient flush toilets and urinal controls; you could even consider waterless urinals.
- If you have them, make sure you know how to use a dual-flush to optimise every flush.

#### Taps

- Flow restrictors, mixer taps and automatic sensors all improve water efficiency.

#### Showers

- Make sure shower heads are eco-friendly. Push-buttoned valves can help cut down shower times too.
- Consider adding shower timers to make sure people are mindful of shower lengths.

# Herb your enthusiasm: Saving water outside

## Did you know?

Sprinklers use up to 1,000 litres per hour. That's more than a family of four use in a day!

### Go native and natural

Choose as many existing trees and shrubs as possible. Established plants native to the UK usually require less water and maintenance.

### Avoid lawns if you can

Maintaining lawns can be water-intensive and expensive, consider alternatives to turf, such as wildflower meadows or drought-resistant ornamental grasses.

### Water lawns wisely

Water lawns heavily once a week, rather than lightly every day. This encourages the grass to root further down, delivering increased flood and drought-resistance.

### Catch that rainwater

It doesn't make sense to use drinking water to flush loos and water plants when rainwater is perfectly good. Consider looking at rainwater harvesting systems to use grey water.

# Hidden H<sub>2</sub>O: Saving embedded water

**Define: Embedded water**  
Hidden water that's used  
to produce things we  
often take for granted.

**Travel**  
13-27  
litres of water  
=  
1 litre of petrol

**Paper**  
10  
litres of water  
=  
1 sheet of paper

**Food**  
14,196  
litres of water  
=  
1kg chocolate



# Introducing Business Stream

Naturally *different.*

Since Business Stream was established in 2008, we've helped customers save nearly £305 million on their bills and conserve more than 52 billion litres of water (that's 21,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools worth) through expertise and advice.



Business Stream is passionate about the benefits of saving water for both customers and the environment. That's why we're committed to helping customers save up to 20% of the water they use.

**Find out more about how Business Stream can help protect your water, wallets and the world at [business-stream.co.uk/water-efficiency](https://business-stream.co.uk/water-efficiency).**

# Ready to test your water knowledge?

1

How many litres of water does each person in the UK use per day on average?

2

What % of the earth's water is accessible to us?

3

What setting should you try to use on all kitchen equipment to save water and energy?

4

One single sheet of paper requires how many litres of water to produce?

5

How long would it take for a sprinkler to use 1,000 litres of water?

# What next?

- **Kick-start real change** in your workplace by exploring our water efficiency pack, including a Savings Spotter Guide.
- **Spread the word** by talking to your friends, family and colleagues.
- **Share your knowledge** by telling us about your pledge to be #Naturallydifferent by saving water, on our social channels on Twitter, LinkedIn or Facebook.
- **Start exploring** our Water Saving Shop for valves, taps and more that will unlock water efficiency across your equipment and spaces.
- **Learn more** by heading to **[business-stream.co.uk/water-efficiency](https://business-stream.co.uk/water-efficiency)**.