



CASE STUDY

Reducing single-use plastic water bottles across Essex with the Refill scheme

What is Refill?

[Refill](#) is a national campaign run by [City to Sea](#), aiming to make refilling a reusable water bottle with tap water as easy as possible. It's estimated that we each use 150 single-use plastic water bottles every year, but by carrying a reusable water bottle, we can help to reduce this number.

In 2018, [Essex and Suffolk Water](#) and Love Essex joined forces with City to Sea and local Refill champions, to launch Refill Essex. Since then, well over 300 local businesses in Essex have signed up as refill stations, including five of our fantastic [country parks](#), making it as easy as possible for people in Essex to refill their reusable water bottle on-the-go.

How people can use free water refill stations

Anyone with a clean reusable water bottle can use a refill station. It's easy to find local refill stations across the UK, either by [downloading the Refill app](#), or by looking for the Refill sticker in shop windows.

Simply pop into the refill station and ask to refill your reusable bottle – it's that easy.

How to become a Refill station

It's easy to sign up to be a refill station, all you need is for your business to have a publicly accessible tap.

Once signed up your business will benefit from being on the [refill app](#) and increased footfall from people looking to refill their reusable water bottles on-the-go. You will also be supporting your local community to reduce single-use plastic.

If you're worried about staff time spent refilling bottles, then you could join the many businesses who have opted to use a publicly assessible tap water dispenser, which makes it easy for people to refill their water bottles themselves.

