



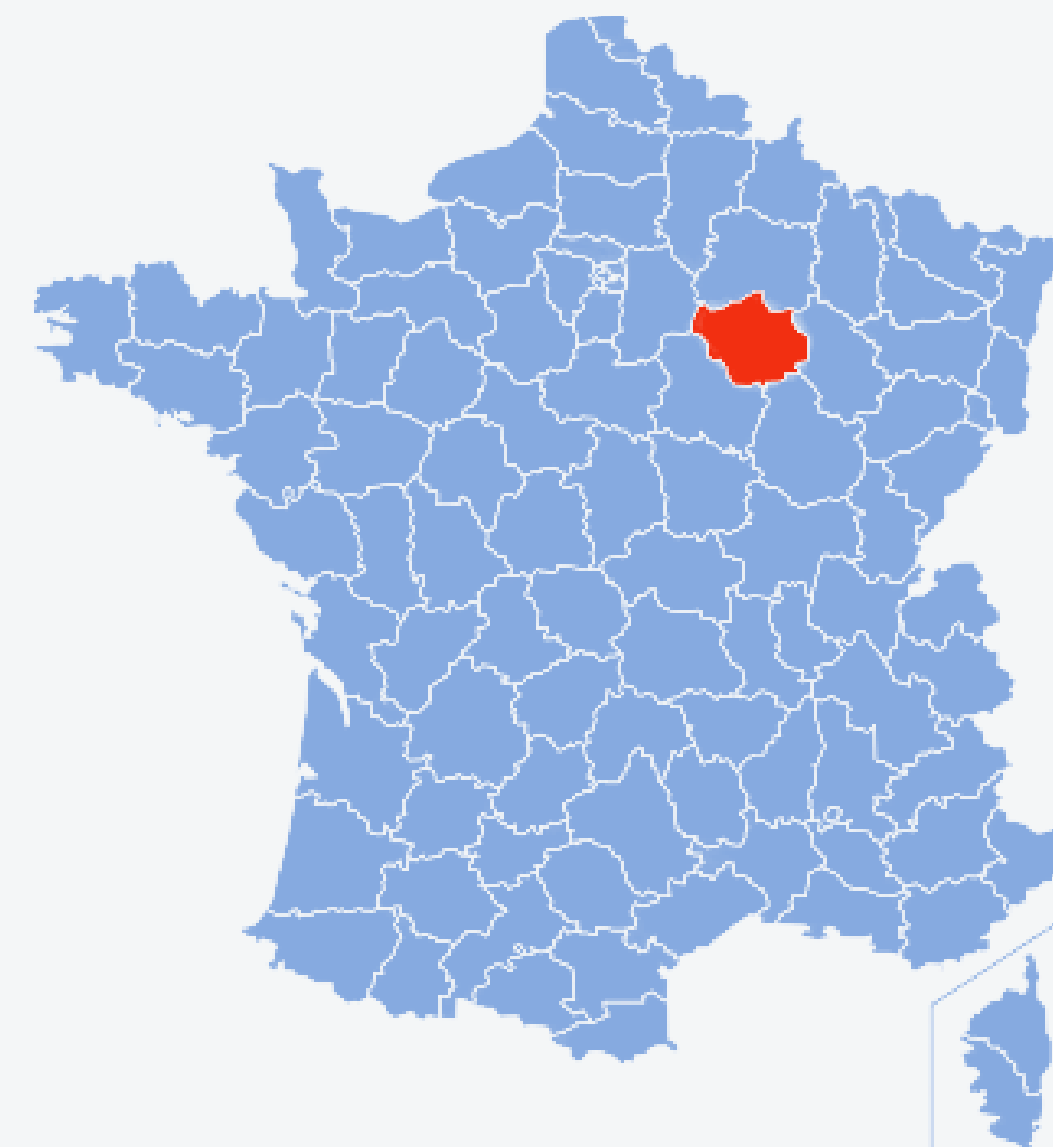
WaterWise Newsletter



Water challenges around St Pouange

We are from Campus Terres de l'Aube, in Saint Pouange in the department of Aube in the North-East of France.

We are students in 1^{ère} STAV, specialised in Agronomy, Biology and Animal Science.



Romilly-sur-Seine is underwater.



7th January 2025

Yesterday, a flood has occurred in Romilly-sur-Seine and the surrounding villages.

In Romilly-sur-Seine, the first flooded places are the park of the Béchère, Chlorophylle, the family gardens, and the farm of the Béchère.

The flow of the Seine is often high in Romilly-sur-Seine.

The flow is important on account of recent strong rains so if the rain doesn't stop in the next days, the situation will get worse because there is too much water in the soil, so it can't absorb rainfall anymore.

Major floods happen every four years.

Unfortunately, no work has been done yet to solve this problem.

Sources : L'Est Éclair

By : Océane DAMEY and Lucie BERTON





Drought alerts and restrictions in the departement of Aube : The local authorities are taking measures

24th July 2025

The Aube departement has had high temperatures and low rainfall in the last two weeks. The level of the rivers Aube and Seine is decreasing more and more. The river basins of Aube and Seine have been placed on alert while the departement is under surveillance. Restrictions were put in place in the towns and villages, especially for watering the garden, filling private pools and washing private vehicles. The restrictions also apply to municipalities, companies and farms.

source : L'Est-Eclair

Emilien PARIS and Estéban SOTO

Drought warning : how to share water ?



Friday 25th July 2025

In the department of Aube, the level of the water is reducing progressively because of the heat and the lack of rain during the last two weeks.

This phenomenon concerns large rivers like the Seine and Aube, but it also concerns tributary streams . Faced with this deteriorating situation, the Aube prefecture is becoming increasingly concerned.

In response to this situation, several prohibitions have been put in place, such as:

- watering trees, lawns, flower gardens, green spaces, gardens, and vegetable gardens between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- filling private swimming pools.
- washing vehicles at home by private individuals.

These water restriction rules also apply to local authorities, compagnies, and farms.

source : l'Ardennais

Cléa PROTOY and Charlie NOIROT



The farmers are facing droughts

August 2024

This week, in the Marne departement, the agricultural soils are facing a major drought. The temperatures have reached 39 °C.

For those reasons the prefecture has restricted irrigation, a difficult decision for the farmers who are already experienling yield losses.

In some areas, it is not allowed to spray crops. However this is not the first drought, when it is weaker, the farmers can spray water on their crops.

Farmers have to be careful with water use for the crops and they need to adapt to the new climatic conditions. It's necessary that the farmers choose low water crops. (like sorgho, barley or chickpea.)

Source : Préfecture de la Marne

Alban HEIRMAN and Charly-Louis LOPPIN

Problems of nitrates in the water in Saint-Lyé



3rd May 2021

Yesterday in Saint-Lyé, the water was perfectly drinkable but still contained lightly too much nitrates because of the fertilizers we put in our fields (like nitrogen and manure).
The water consumption was not recommended for vulnerable people like babies, pregnant women and the elderly because nitrates are dangerous for the health.
The legal limit for nitrates in the water is 50 mg/L.
In 2021, 7% of the people in the departement of Aube had tap water which exceeded the nitrate limit.

Source : Est Eclair

Jules LABROSSE
Mathis BERTRAND



PFAS: 3,500 inhabitants without drinking water in the Ardennes and Vosges

6th November 2025

In the Ardennes and the Vosges, several municipalities are facing contamination of their drinking water by PFAS, also known as "eternal pollutants". About 3,500 people in 17 villages have been without tap water for drinking for nearly four months.

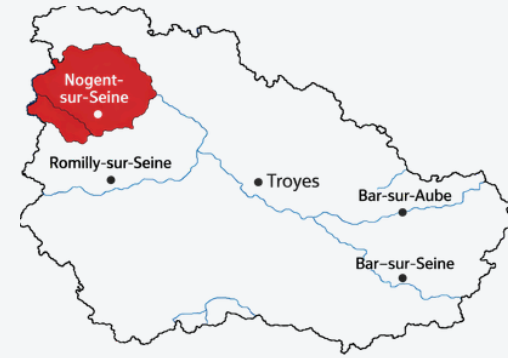
Concentrations largely above the standards have been measured in some municipalities. In Malandry, the August reading indicates a level of 0.559 micrograms per litre, more than five times the regulatory limit of 0.10 µg/L. The health risk limit is set at 20 µg/L.
The bans only concern the consumption of drinking water and the preparation of bottles. Tap water is still allowed for other domestic use (washing, washing the dishes).

According to the new European regulations, PFAS will have to be tested in drinking water from January 2026.
The Grand Est Regional Health Agency (ARS) is mobilised to protect the health of residents, guarantee transparent information and support local authorities in the establishment of sustainable solutions.

Source: Libération

Chloé LUGAN
Ethan MAILLARD

Global warming and the nuclear power plant of Nogent Sur Seine



30th August 2025

Today the power plant of Nogent Sur Seine could be forced to stop temporarily due to the heatwave to preserve the aquatic fauna in the Seine.

Global warming is causing increasing difficulties for the operation of nuclear power plants in France. During periods of high temperatures, some power plants must reduce their production in order to comply with environmental standards.

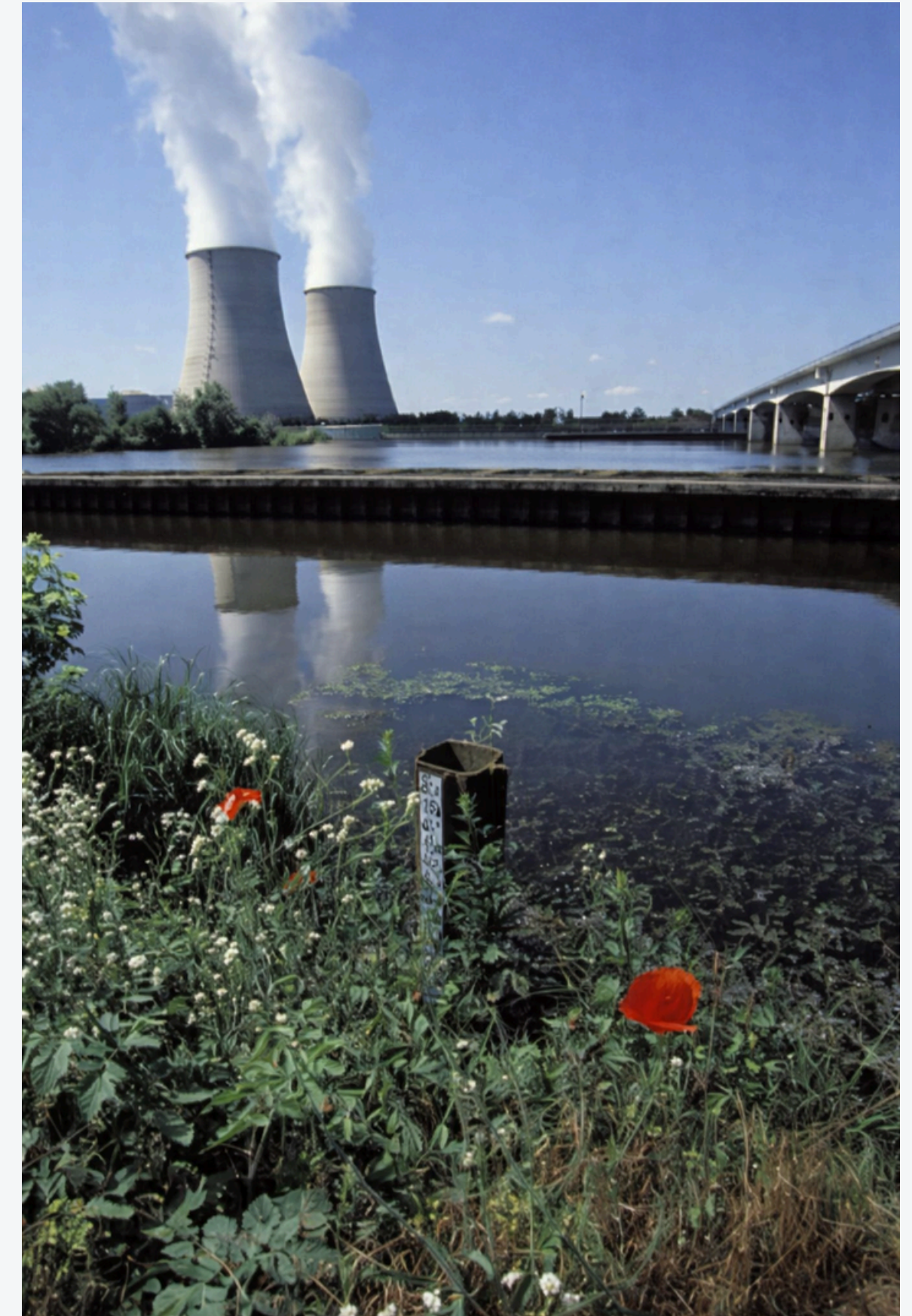
These limitations are expected to become more frequent in the coming years, encouraging authorities to call for more water-efficient modes of operation. The main cause of this problem is the use of water for cooling power plants and its discharge into rivers at a higher temperature. When water temperatures increase too much, aquatic ecosystems are threatened and can be severely damaged.

To limit these impacts, strict regulatory limits regulate the maximum temperature of watercourses downstream of power plants. Specific rules are provided for exceptional heatwave situations in order to adapt the operation of the facilities. Electricity production is adjusted according to the observed climatic and hydrological conditions. A continued surveillance of a weather condition, flow and temperature of rivers allows to anticipate risk periods.

These measures aim to ensure the production of electricity while ensuring the protection of the aquatic environment.

source : L'Union

Théo LEMAITRE and Etienne AUBRY





The Fight against water leaks is ongoing

8th November 2022

In the Marne département drinking water losses are estimated at 27.8%, according to Sispea in 2020 (Sispea is the National Observatory of Water and Sanitation Services); Rural areas account for 40% of total losses.

The national network loses approximately 20% of its water through leaks, which corresponds to the annual consumption of 18 million inhabitants.

Losses are different depending on the areas. The city of Reims represents more than 10% of the total losses.

Historically, there were research campaigns “that allowed us to have few losses” explain A s Nathalie Picard

Nathalie Picard is a French professional who works in the field of drinking water and sanitation management. She works in particular within the Greater Reims conurbation.

Changing pipes and invest in materials high-performance is objective of communities. “Between 3 and 4 million euros are invested every year for the extension the pipe network. That allows urban area to renew old pipes.

sources : Le Figaro, le Parisien

Célian GALLOT and Maxime TALTAVULL



THANK YOU!

Mathis
Jules
Charly-Louis
Alban
Chloé
Emilien
Maxime
Célian
Etienne
Charlie
Clea
Ethan
Océane
Lucie
Esteban
Théo





Vocabulary



a leak : une fuite
water losses : les pertes d'eau
rural area : les zones rurales
urban area : zone urbaine
drinking water : eau potable
to estimate : estimer
according to : selon
on average : in moyenne
pipes : canalisations
consumption : consommation
research campaigns : campagnes de recherche
to allow : permettre / autoriser
efficient materials : matériaux performants
community : communauté / collectivité
to renew : renouveler
several : plusieurs

rainfall : pluviométrie
to water : arroser
to decrease : diminuer
companies : entreprise
river basins : bassins
drought : sécheresse
exceed : surpasser
pregnant : enceint
the elderly : les personnes âgées
nitrates : nitrates
fertilizers : engrais
crops : cultures
yield : rendement
climatic conditions : conditions climatiques
sustainable : durable