



What to think at the sink

Caring for the wastewater network

On behalf of the community, SA Water owns, manages and maintains more than 8000 km of wastewater mains, 400 wastewater pumping stations and 22 wastewater treatment plants across South Australia. These play an important role in protecting public health and the environment.

By following the simple steps on the back of this flyer, you'll help our wastewater treatment plants work effectively, prevent harm to the wastewater network, and help SA Water protect the environment. You'll also be safeguarding your property from wastewater mishaps.

The Dos and Don'ts

The Dos

- ✓ **DO** use detergent sparingly and make sure it is biodegradable and phosphate free.
- ✓ **DO** consider 'natural' cleaners (bicarbonate of soda makes stainless steel sparkle!).
- ✓ **DO** scrape unwanted food scraps from dishes into a bin before rinsing or washing.
- ✓ And please **DO** use a sink strainer.

The Don'ts

- ✗ **DON'T** pour cooking oils or fats down the sink – they are difficult and costly to process.
- ✗ **DON'T** pour boiling water down the sink – temperatures exceeding 60°C could damage PVC pipes.
- ✗ **DON'T** overuse chemical cleaning products and bleaches – they kill the treatment bacteria in the sewerage system and could be harmful to human health and the environment.
- ✗ **DON'T** use the sink as a garbage bin for unwanted food scraps, no matter how small. Fruit and vegetable scraps can be put on your compost heap, along with tea leaves and coffee grounds.
- ✗ **DON'T** dispose of unwanted medical tablets down the sink, no matter how many – these should be discarded appropriately.
- ✗ And please **DON'T** use the toilet to dispose of sanitary products, condoms, cotton buds or other similar products – these can get caught in pipes and could lead to a blockage.

Contacts

SA Water Customer Contact Centre 1300 650 950

Service Problems (Metro) (08) 8381 0300

Service Problems (Country) 1300 880 337

www.sawater.com.au