

About the Sewerage System

Trade Waste Fact Sheet No. 3

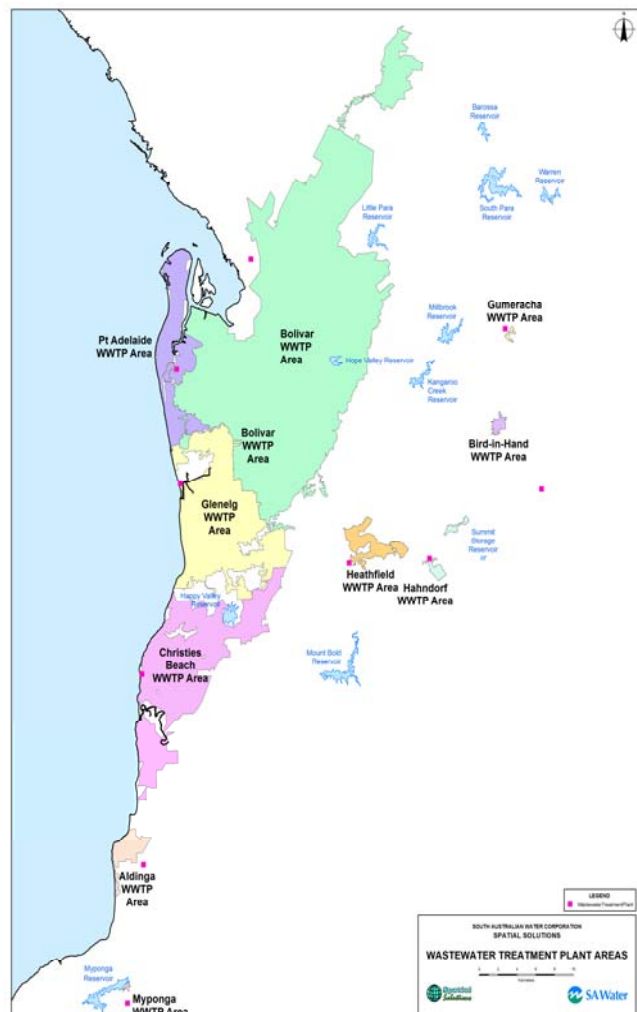
Where does your trade waste go?

After discharging into the sewer on your premises, trade waste joins other sewage carried in the street sewer, which then combines with other street sewers and finally enters the nearest sewage treatment plant. Here, the incoming waste water is treated to remove contaminants and pathogens. Treated effluent must meet strict standards set by the Environment Protection Authority (SA) and is reused for irrigation and other purposes, with the remainder discharged to the environment.

About the system

- The sewerage system collects approximately 250ML daily of liquid wastes from properties throughout Metropolitan Adelaide.
- Industrial and commercial trade wastes are a major component of the total. They contribute approx. 11% of the sewer flow, and up to 30% of the pollutant loading.
- The combined system serving Adelaide currently contains more than 6,000Km of sewer pipe work with over 400,000 connections serving approx. 1 million people
- The flow in the sewers operates under both gravity and pump. There are over 400 pump stations scattered around the metropolitan area.
- There are 3 major sewage treatment plants in the metropolitan area - Bolivar, Glenelg and Christies Beach. A fourth (also located at Bolivar) treats sewage from part of the Port Adelaide catchment and a further 15 plants are located in regional centres throughout the state.
- The total assets of the sewerage system are valued in excess of \$2 billion.

Obviously a sewerage system as complex and extensive as ours requires continual maintenance. Monitoring, replacement of structures, attention to pumping and ventilation, chemical conditioning, odour control and obstruction removal are regular and essential responsibilities performed by United Water and SA Water personnel.



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Further information

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