



# Wastewater tips

Helping care for the wastewater network



**On behalf of the community, SA Water owns, manages and maintains more than 8 600 km of wastewater mains, 400 wastewater pumping stations and 22 wastewater treatment plants.**

These assets help play a vital role in protecting public health and the environment.

By following these tips, you'll help our wastewater treatment plants work effectively, prevent harm to the wastewater network, and help us protect the environment. You'll also be safeguarding your property from wastewater mishaps.



Government of  
South Australia



SA Water

# Wastewater tips

## How you can help

- Use detergent sparingly and make sure it is biodegradable and phosphate free.
- Consider 'natural' cleaners (bicarbonate of soda makes stainless steel sparkle).
- Scrape unwanted food scraps from dishes into a bin before rinsing or washing.
- Use a sink strainer.

## Things to avoid

- Pouring cooking oils or fats down the sink – they are difficult and costly to process.
- Pouring boiling water down the sink – temperatures exceeding 60°C could damage PVC pipes.
- Overusing chemical cleaning products and bleaches – they kill the treatment bacteria in the sewerage system and could be harmful to human health and the environment.
- Using 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.
- Disposing of unwanted medical tablets down the sink, no matter how many – these should be discarded appropriately.
- Using the toilet to dispose of sanitary products, condoms, cotton buds or other similar products – these can get caught in the pipes and could lead to blockage.

Faults and emergencies **1300 883 121**

General enquiries **1300 650 950**

Website **[www.sawater.com.au](http://www.sawater.com.au)**

**WATER  GOOD**