

Food waste disposal to sewer

Released: 27 May 2019

SA Water has recently conducted an investigation into the activity of food waste disposal to the sewer network.

Currently, SA Water does not offer the service of receiving bulk food waste disposed of to the sewer. After completing the investigation, SA Water has decided that the acceptance of food waste to sewer may be approved on a case by case basis under special conditions, by means of a trade waste application.

It is SA Water's expectation that for any food waste disposal system including composters, digesters, garbage disposal and garbage grinders, in a commercial, industrial or in a domestic setting, sites must have an advanced pre-treatment system downstream which is appropriately designed to handle such loads. These systems must not be connected directly to sewer, or an existing grease arrestor.

Food waste disposed into the sewer can create conditions within the network to allow for corrosion, sedimentation, and offensive odours.

