

it's important you don't spoil it at the toilet!

Fitzroy River Water maintains the Rockhampton Regional Council's sewerage infrastructure and provides a safe and reliable sewerage service to the community. Residential and commercial properties are connected via internal plumbing to a network of sewer pipes and sewerage pump stations which transport sewage (wastewater) to sewage treatment plants. At the sewage treatment plant, sewage is treated to remove solids, organics, nutrients (such as nitrogen and phosphorus), and harmful germs. The treated sewage is then returned to the environment.



Flushing the wrong items down toilets can leave home owners with an expensive plumbing bill to unblock pipes and can lead to malfunctions at the sewage treatment plant. Malfunctions add extra costs and hinder the effective and efficient treatment of sewage provided by Fitzroy River Water. Effective and efficient treatment is required to protect the community and the environment.

These items *will* spoil it at the toilet:

Floss	Paint and building waste	First aid items
Cleaning wipes	Cotton swabs	Poisons
Cosmetics	Nappies	Razors
Cigarette butts	Drugs and medicines	Dryer sheets
Hair	Food	Dirt
Condoms	Sanitary items	Cat litter
Small animals	(such as <i>incontinence pads</i>)	Chewing gum



These items *won't* spoil it at the toilet:

Human waste
Biodegradable toilet or tissue paper

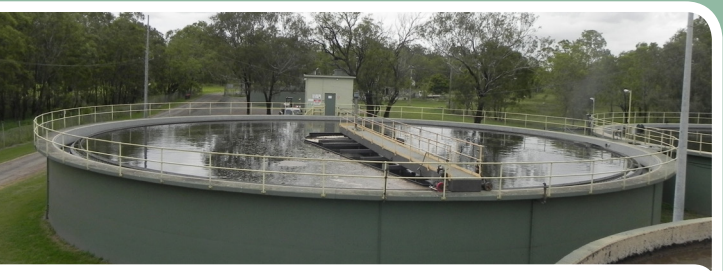
Sewage treatment

As sewage enters the sewage treatment plant, it firstly travels through an automated inlet screen which is designed to remove paper and other soft solids. The step screen is not designed to cope with hard foreign objects. In the past, Fitzroy River Water has incurred extensive repair bills to some of these inlet screens due to damage caused by foreign objects.

Odd and unacceptable objects that have made their way to the inlet screen include timber, bricks, cameras, tape measures, a washing machine motor, and bed sheets.

Tips for your toilet or bathroom

- Use only the recommended amount of detergent and cleaners to reduce the amount of chemicals,
- Limit flushing and disposal of non-biodegradable toilet paper, and
- Take care when handling anything near the toilet - if it's dropped it may not be retrievable!



North Rockhampton Sewage Treatment Plant pictured above.

What do I do if I spoil it at the toilet?

If you believe your toilet has been blocked with a foreign item, you should call a plumber. A plumber will be able to determine where the blockage lies and in some instances may have to remove the toilet from the wall to unblock pipes.

If the blockage lies outside your property boundary please report this to Fitzroy River Water.