

# What I need to know about Wastewater

Wastewater from toilets, showers, laundries, kitchens, industries and commercial properties is collected by underground pipes and transported to Wastewater Treatment Plants where it is treated to a standard suitable for returning to the waterways or for reuse.

Bundaberg Regional Council  
PO Box 3130  
BUNDABERG QLD 4670  
1300 883 699  
[www.bundabergrc.qld.gov.au](http://www.bundabergrc.qld.gov.au)

Council hours  
8.15am to 4.45pm  
Monday to Friday

#### Fact Sheets available:

1. Water Cycle
2. Water Treatment
3. What I need to know about Wastewater
4. Wastewater Treatment
5. Water Pollution
6. Water Recycling
7. Water Efficiency
8. How to read your Water Meter
9. Water Meter Home Accuracy Check
10. Drip Water your Garden and save
11. Important things to know about drip watering
12. Water Audit for the Household
13. Rainwater Tanks
14. Pool Maintenance

#### Booklets available:

1. You Can Take Control
2. Create Your Own Water Wise Garden

Additional fact sheets from WaterWise Queensland can also be obtained through your Local Council.

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## WHAT IS WASTEWATER TREATMENT?

Wastewater treatment is a series of processes that remove pollutants from wastewater such as solids, organic matter, oil and grease, detergents, nutrients, heavy metals and bacteria. These processes are carried out at a Wastewater Treatment Plant

## WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INFLUENT AND EFFLUENT?

A general name for the wastewater entering the Wastewater Treatment Plant is 'influent'. The general term for the clean treated water that leaves the Wastewater Treatment Plant is 'effluent'.

## WHAT CAN CAUSE THE VOLUME OF WASTEWATER TO CHANGE?

The amount of wastewater that arrives at the Wastewater Treatment Plant varies according to the time of day – the flow peaks in the morning and again in the evening. Industry activities also cause variations to both the volume and quality of the wastewater.

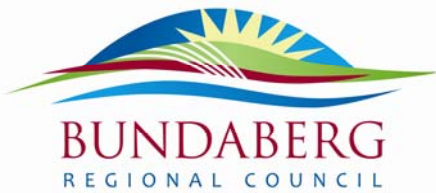
The volume also increases with wet weather. This can occur when stormwater pipes are connected to the wastewater system or when the wastewater pipes are old or damaged, then stormwater can infiltrate the system through substandard pipes.

## WHAT IS BUNDABERG REGIONAL COUNCIL ROLE IN WASTEWATER?

Bundaberg Regional Council currently operates 10 Wastewater Treatment Plants around the regional.

### Ex Bundaberg City Council

- East Bundaberg (the largest)
- Millbank



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- North Bundaberg
- Thabeban
- Avoca

**Ex Burnett Shire**

- Coral Cove - Golf Course
- Bargara - Neilson Park

**Ex Kolan Shire**

- Gin Gin - Old Slaughters Yards

**Ex Isis Shire**

- Childers - Morgans Rd
- Woodgate

Bundaberg Regional Council takes pride in providing quality water to all residents.

If you have any queries about any of the information presented in this fact sheet, please telephone Bundaberg Regional Council Water & Wastewater Infrastructure Planning Technical Support on 1300 883 699