

## Sewage Treatment Works

Many homes do not enjoy the benefit of being connected to a public sewage system and are connected to privately owned systems which they are solely or jointly responsible for.

### How We Can Help

**Carter Pumps Ltd** is fully conversant in the servicing and maintenance of sewage treatment works. It is important that the works are maintained and regularly serviced, not only to ensure that it is running efficiently, but also to meet environmental standards set by the Environment Agency.

Sewage systems are designed to collect and treat biodegradable wastes. Sewage treatment works use colonies of live micro-organisms to break down the pollutants in domestic sewage. Many chemicals in your home can kill these micro-organisms, or stop them working, particularly if used in excessive amounts.

Micro-organisms that are damaged, will eventually recover. However, one of the symptoms of a damaged system is the build up of unpleasant smells.

When the wrong substances are poured into the drains it not only causes problems with the drains and sewage works, but can kill plant and fish life in our rivers and on the land which can result in you being fined.

### Substances that can STOP sewage treatment works working & pollute rivers and land:

- ♦ Motor oil, paraffin, diesel, grease, anti-freeze, brake fluid etc.
- ♦ Cooking oil and fat, heating oil
- ♦ Weed killers, insecticides, fungicides and other garden chemicals
- ♦ Paint, thinners, white spirit, turpentine, creosote etc.
- ♦ Medicines
- ♦ Home beer and winemaking
- ♦ Photographic developing fluids

### Items that cause damage and block drains:

- ♦ Drain and pipecleaning solutions
- ♦ Cotton buds, condoms, femidons, tampons and tampon applicators
- ♦ Sanitary towels, panty liners and backing strips
- ♦ Facial & cleaning wipes and baby wipes
- ♦ Disposable nappies and Incontinence pads
- ♦ Bandages
- ♦ Razor blades, syringes and needles
- ♦ Colostomy bags, medicine
- ♦ Food
- ♦ Fibrous items i.e. Plastics, toilet roll tubes, tights etc

### Items that can be safely disposed of down drains:

- ♦ Toilet paper and human waste
- ♦ Household cleaning fluids, washing machine/dishwasher detergents
- ♦ Floor cleaners, disinfectants and bleach (dilute first)
- ♦ Nappy disinfectants and bottle sterilisers (dilute and flush down the toilet)

Common household cleaning products and chemicals can be used if you follow the manufacturer's instructions and they are well diluted with water.

You can be prosecuted with large fines if certain things are put down the drains or you fail to treat the sewage to a standard set by the Environment Agency. It is the responsibility of all users to use and maintain the treatment works correctly.

**No need to flush**

- ♦ Most waste, that shouldn't be put down drains, can be bottled and taken to your local household recycling centre for safe disposal.
- ♦ Put bins next to all the toilets in your home and get everybody to use them.

Repairs to these systems can be very costly, therefore it is important that everyone (guests/visitors/staff) are aware that you have a specialist system and how they can avoid damaging or harming it. They also need to be aware that there is a health and safety risk if they come into contact with sewage etc due to any damage or misuse.

The risk of expensive failures and the inconvenience of your sewage treatment plant breaking down can be minimised by taking out a **Carter Pumps Planned Maintenance Contract**, which has the benefit of fixing costs for the contract term.

***Please contact us for further details.***

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email: [sales@carterpumps.co.uk](mailto:sales@carterpumps.co.uk)

*To find your local household recycling site visit:*

*[www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk) or phone Wiltshire Council on 01380 734849.*

*[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk) or phone Oxfordshire County Council 01865 815796*