

# Water

is for washing.

Water is an essential part of our daily lives: on average, every one of us in Germany consumes around 125 litres of drinking water every day. For showers, personal hygiene, washing, cleaning and cooking - not forgetting, of course, flushing the toilet. All these daily activities contaminate the water we use with human wastes, food wastes, fats, oils and detergents.

Many people see the toilet as a convenient way of flushing away all kinds of waste. What they probably don't know is that everything that disappears down the toilet has to be carefully removed from the wastewater in complex mechanical processes before the wastewater can be purified. So please make sure you put your rubbish where it really belongs – in the right rubbish bin. This helps us to protect and conserve the environment, safeguard your water supply, reduce costs and - at the same time – it makes our job much easier.



Stadtentwässerung



Hannover

Wir klären das.



#### STADTENTWÄSSERUNG HANNOVER

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or by appointment

#### 24-hour emergency hotline

...when things are not running as they should

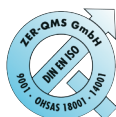
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#### This version dated:

October 2015

#### Concept and design:

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**SCENE OF THE CRIME. THE TOILET!**  
YOUR TOILET IS NOT A RUBBISH BIN!

[www.stadtentwaesserung-hannover.de](http://www.stadtentwaesserung-hannover.de)

LANDESHAUPTSTADT HANNOVER

**HANNOVER**

# Scene of the crime. The toilet!

## Toilets are meant exclusively for flushing away human wastes and toilet paper!



Although most people know this, these are only a few of the other things we fish out of the treatment plant every day of the year. Around six tonnes of non-recyclable materials turn up every day in our sewage treatment plants in Herrenhausen and Gummerwald, all of which have to be removed and disposed of separately by us.

- CIGARETTE ENDS
- WASTE FOOD
- CONDOMS
- TAMPONS, SANITARY TOWELS
- NAPPIES
- CAT LITTER
- PACKAGING MATERIALS
- PIECES OF PLASTIC
- RAZOR BLADES
- GLASS
- COTTON BUDS
- MEDICINES
- STICKING PLASTERS
- COOKING OILS/FATS
- MOTOR OIL
- LEFTOVER PAINT
- PAINTBRUSH CLEANERS
- TEXTILES
- TOILET FRESHENERS

## “Flushing sins” ...and their consequences.

It's not only these non-recyclable wastes that cause problems for sustainable wastewater treatment. Water-soluble substances like varnishes and paints, strong chemical cleaning agents, solvents and thinners should not be poured into the toilet bowl and never into outside drains. They pollute the wastewater and are hard to filter out at the sewage works. All of these things are actually poisonous wastes.

In addition to this, animal fats and vegetable oils stick to the insides of sewage pipes and make it easier for rats – attracted by food wastes flushed down the toilet – to run around in the sewers and even get into your home through the toilet! This is why you must always dispose of these kinds of waste in tightly closed containers (e.g. screw-top jars) with the rest of your household refuse.

