Keeping Your AWTS Healthy

envirotas wastewater

To ensure your EnviroTas-AS is operating effectively and within the standards set by regulatory bodies, it is necessary to avoid certain products entering the system.

Your treatment system relies on bacteria for treatment, so any product used to kill bacteria is detrimental to system efficiency, can cause bad odours and damage the workings of the system.

The following tips are helpful in ensuring your EnviroTas-AS operates effectively and trouble-free:

- Use cleaning products that are bio-degradable and low phosphorus.
- Be aware most products advertised as clean-green and septic-friendly are often based on natural oils (eg Eucalyptus/Tea Tree) and these can decrease the effectiveness of your system.
- If possible, spread your washing loads over a week, e.g. 1 or 2 loads per day.
- Adhere to recommended dosages of cleaning and wash products.
- **Don't** allow the following items down any drains connected to your treatment system:
  - Dyes or colourings.
  - Strong caustics, alkalis, oils, acids, bleaches, disinfectants, antibacterials, chemical detergents, or caravan toilet chemical.
  - Bio-degradable detergents that contain disinfectants (e.g. chlorine bleach), benzine or phosphates. Benzine converts to carbolic acid which is a strong disinfectant.
  - Antibiotics.
  - Sanitary items, wipes (even flushable wipes) newspapers, paper towels etc.
- **Don't** exceed the maximum design load or subject the system to hydraulic shock loads (use of washing machines, multiple showers/emptying of baths at the same time). Leaking taps or toilets constantly running can affect excess loading on the system and cause odours.
- **Don't** switch off power to your system.
- Avoid the use of garbage disposal units in sinks.
- Avoid pouring quantities of oil/fats, alcohol, dairy products or fruit juice into the drains to the system.
- If the alarm is activated, contact EnviroTas and eliminate the problem as soon as possible.
- Yoghurt, sugar, yeast, roadkill, lime fertiliser may assist with biological health, but does not counteract against use of bad products.

Helpful Tip
If you need to use any products not permitted to enter your EnviroTas-AS, it is best to do this in a bucket and discard the contents appropriately outdoors after use.

Visit envirotas.com.au/product-use-guide for the most current version of our comprehensive guide.

wastewater peace of mind

Product Use Guide

envirotas wastewater

Types of products to avoid:

- Antibacterial Products.
- Disinfectant Products.
- Concentrate or super concentrate branding.
- Anything labelled grease cutting or eliminates grease is too strong.
- Items bleach or ammonia based.
- Spray-on prewash for laundry.
- Anything eucalyptus based.

Products generally safe to use:

- Koh range is very good. Lucent Globe range is generally safe.
- Vinegar, Bicarb Soda.
- Natural based products are generally ok, as long as no eucalyptus ingredients.
- Subdu, Actizyme or other enzyme based products are healthy for preventing drain odours and blockages.

Moderation is key with all cleaning products. Your AWTS will cope with a small amount of incorrect products but to keep everything working as required please follow our suggestions. It is difficult to specifically label which products are safe for use with an AWTS as the product ingredients are continually evolving and changing.

Floors

- Nothing antibacterial or disinfectant, unless the water is disposed of outside (not down the drain).
- Vinegar or a mild detergent mixed with hot water works well on floors and is safe for AWTS.

Bathrooms & Toilets

- Look for environmentally friendly and biodegradable products.
- Most cream cleaners such as JIF are suitable unless in excess quantities.
- Alternative non-product cleaners are recommended such as Enjo, Norwex etc. Koh products are known to work very well with AWTS.
- Bicarb Soda or Vinegar works well as a cleaner.
- Avoid antibacterial, bleach or ammonia-based cleaners.
- Toilet fresheners are not recommended.
- Windex used on shower screens is generally too strong.
- Avoid mould killer products.
- Avoid orange power as it is too strong.

Personal/Pet Hygiene

- Anything you can use on the human body is generally safe for your system in small doses (except strong antibacterial handwash in excessive quantities).
- Take care that no pet wash runoff, including flea products etc, drains into your system.

Kitchen

- Choose products that are non-toxic, non-chlorine based and biodegradable.
- Liquids are generally better than powder or tablets.
- Dishwashing liquid must not be antibacterial, disinfectant or concentrate.
- Finish Powerball or any other dishwasher tablets/capsules with fancy balls or colours are too strong.
- Finish Powder or other types of basic powders are generally ok, stick to recommended dosage.
- Surface cleaners should be natural based, unless using a disposable wipe which isn't rinsed down the drains.
- Any cream cleaner such as JIF are generally safe.
- Do not use Draino or other strong drain cleaners.

Laundry

- Product must be stamped as NP
- No bleaches.
- Look for low phosphorus, low sodium and low sulphur products.
- Avoid stain removal products, particularly prewash spray. Rubbing a bar of soap over a stain before washing is a quite effective stain removal.
- Incompatible soakers (Sard or Napisan) can be used in a bucket and then disposed of appropriately outside (not down the drain) when finished.
- Liquids are generally better than powders.

Your EnviroTas maintenance technician will advise on your service report if there are any incompatible products affecting the operation and biological condition of your system.

wastewater peace of mind

03 6234 7782
sales@envirotas.com.au
6 Hale Street Derwent Park Tasmania 7009