



People get sick

People can get sick and, even if they don't have symptoms, they may shed particles of virus or bacteria.



Particles travel

Viral and bacterial particles travel into drainage systems via sinks and toilets.

How does wastewater monitoring work?



Wastewater sampling

Wastewater samples are taken from drainage systems.



Laboratory testing

Laboratories test wastewater samples to detect diseases spreading in a community.



Monitor trends

Public health professionals use testing data to look for trends in disease and inform public health action.