

FATBERGS

FATS, OIL AND GREASE (FOG)

congeal with wet wipes, nappies and hidden plastics to form fatbergs

£100 MILLION

The UK spends around **£100 million** every year clearing an estimated **300,000** fatbergs

SMELL

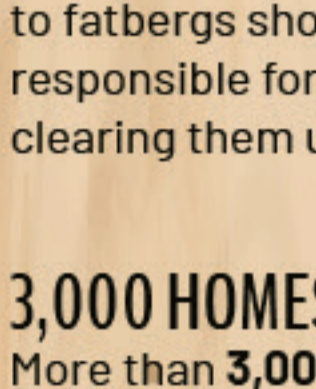
is one of the most shocking facts about fatbergs

400 - 600

fatbergs removed every month by **Lanes Group**

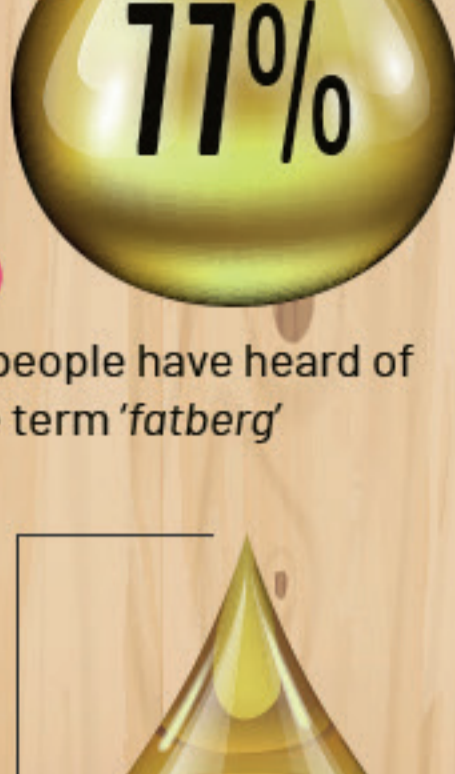
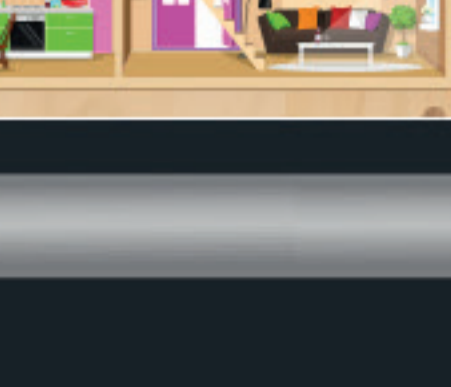
FATCAM:

A live stream of a fatberg that was unearthed and is now on display in the Museum of London

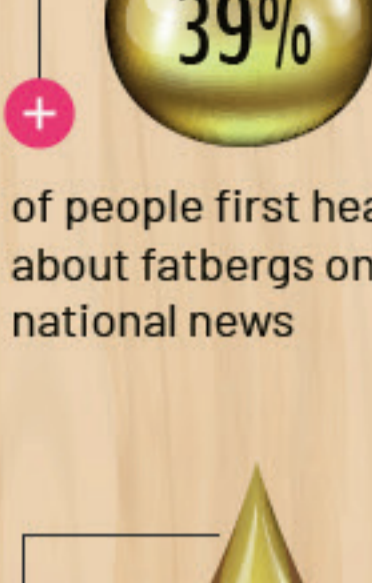


of people think that those who contribute to fatbergs should be responsible for clearing them up

3,000 HOMES More than **3,000** homes are flooded in the UK every year because of fatbergs*



of people have heard of the term 'fatberg'



of people first heard about fatbergs on national news



of people know that wet wipes are found in fatbergs



of people know that FOG from cooking contributes to fatbergs

ENVIRONMENT



8 MILLION TONNES of plastic is dumped in the ocean every year

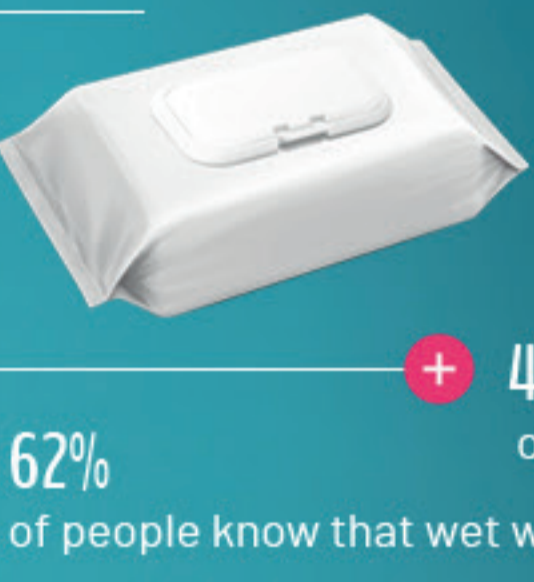


180 MILLION cotton buds are flushed down the toilet every year

HIDDEN PLASTICS:

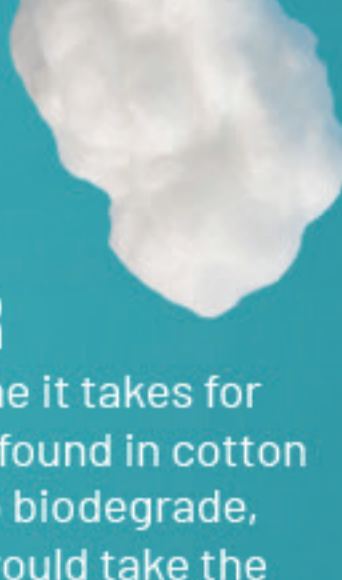
also known as microplastics - make their way from sewers into rivers, seas and oceans. They can be fatal to marine life.

Everyday items like **teabags, chewing gum, period products, condoms, nappies, wet wipes, contact lenses, paint, toothpaste and cotton buds** all contain hidden plastics.

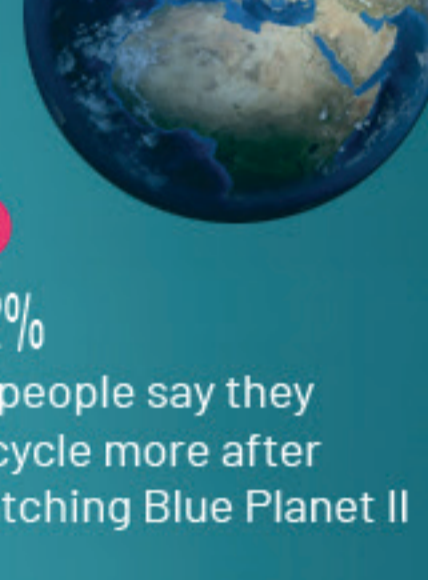


62% of people know that wet wipes can contain hidden plastics

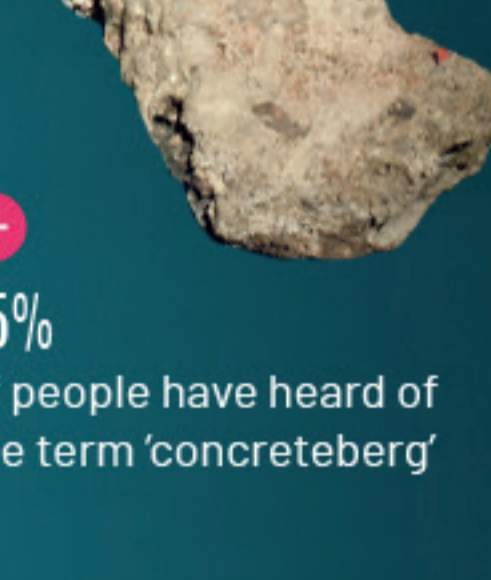
48% of people have flushed wet wipes labelled as 'flushable'



1 YEAR The time it takes for cotton found in cotton buds to biodegrade, but it would take the plastic stems **500 years** to do so**



52% of people say they recycle more after watching Blue Planet II



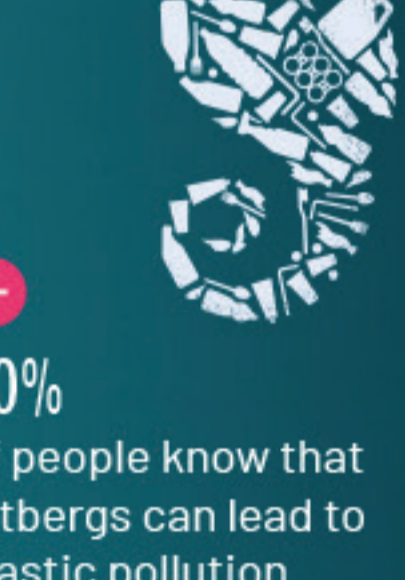
15% of people have heard of the term 'concreteberg'



79% of people have washed paint brushes used for decorating in the kitchen sink



500 YEARS The average time it takes for a wet wipe to biodegrade**



20% of people know that fatbergs can lead to plastic pollution



65% of people do not know the correct way to dispose of cement and household paint



AUGUST 2019 Flooding hit many parts of the UK and caused sewers to burst open, revealing blockages caused by wet wipes and debris

WOMEN & MEN



74% of women and **85%** of men have heard of the term 'fatberg'.

46% of women have flushed tampons down the toilet. **20%** of men have flushed condoms down the toilet.

9% of women have flushed sanitary towels down the toilet. **6%** of men have flushed medication down the toilet

36% of women know that tampons contribute to fatbergs. **35%** of men know that condoms contribute to fatbergs.

47% of women have flushed wet wipes labelled as 'flushable' down the toilet. **34%** of men have flushed wet wipes labelled as 'flushable' down the toilet.



40% of women know that sanitary towels contribute to fatbergs.



500 years: The average time it takes for a sanitary towel or plastic tampon applicator to biodegrade in water**

50-100 years: The time it takes for a **natural latex condom** to biodegrade in water**

500 years: The time it takes for a **synthetic latex condom** to biodegrade in water**

INTRODUCING UNBLOCKTOBER

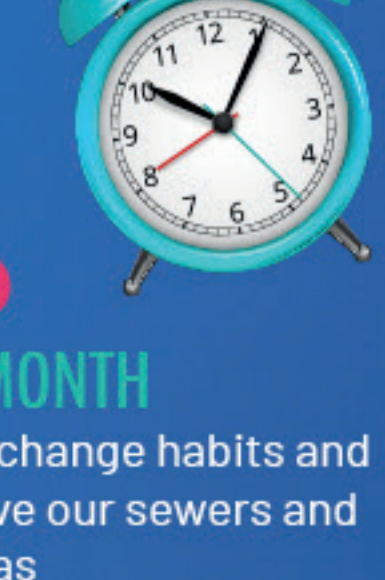


UNBLOCKTOBER
SAVE OUR SEWERS AND SEAS

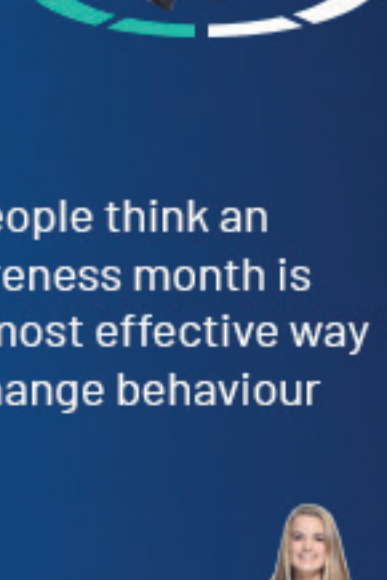
THE WORLD'S FIRST NATIONAL AWARENESS MONTH TO SAVE OUR SEWERS AND SEAS



1st-31st OCTOBER 2019
The world's first Unblocktober, launched by Lanes Group plc



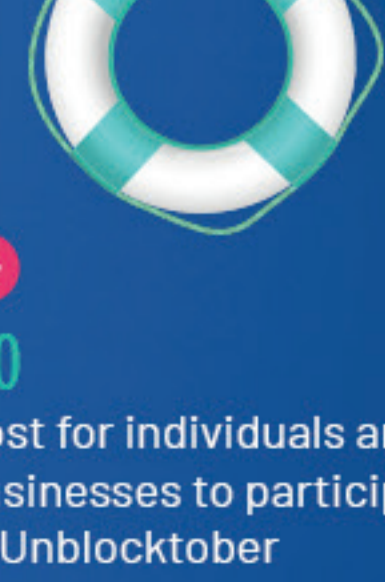
1 MONTH to change habits and save our sewers and seas



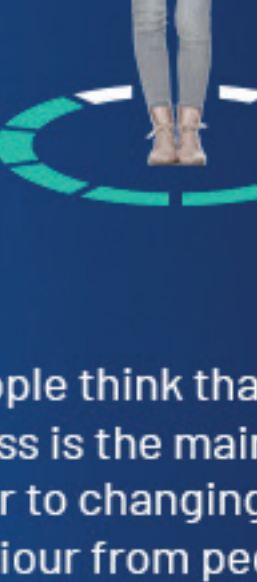
41% of people think an awareness month is the most effective way to change behaviour



66% of people would be willing to participate in a month-long challenge to change their habits



£0 Cost for individuals and businesses to participate in Unblocktober



67% of people think that laziness is the main barrier to changing behaviour from people who contribute to fatbergs

Check out **#Unblocktober** and **unblocktober.org** for updates, progress and results

JUST SOME OF THE ORGANISATIONS BACKING UNBLOCKTOBER



**Southern Water
**Research from UKDN Waterflow Ltd:
<https://ukdnwaterflow.co.uk/advice/plastic-biodegradability-in-the-ocean/>

All Lanes Group plc statistics taken from survey:
<https://www.lanesfordrains.co.uk/global/news/lanes-survey-reveals-uke-habits-attitudes-drainage-use-complete-data/>

www.lanesfordrains.co.uk www.unblocktober.org