

865 km² as our mission

The River Emscher is a right-bank tributary of the Rhine. Its source lies southwest of Dortmund in Holzwickede, and from there it flows into the Rhine some 85 kilometres away in Dinslaken. The Emscher drains the northern border area of the Bergisches Land and the Sauerland region, as well as parts of the right-bank lower Rhine region lowlands. It forms the central commercial waterways axis of the most densely-populated region in Germany. Characteristic for the river and its tributaries are a shallow gradient and low-volume flow.

The Emscher conversion

The Emscher conversion is a technical and planning challenge which, in its sheer scope, is unparalleled in Europe. In the heart of Europe's biggest conurbation, an 80-kilometre-long river is to be renaturated from its present state as a mere open waste water canal.

The Emscher regeneration project is one of the biggest infrastructure projects with extraordinary dimensions in Europe.

From the project's launch until its completion, a few decades will have passed. By then the entire region will have been transformed: by the environmentally sustainable renaturation of the waterway, offering high quality leisure opportunities, and also due to the diverse range of projects in the region initiated by the Emscher regeneration.

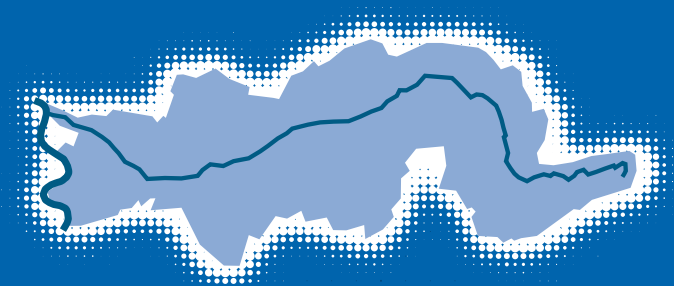


EMSCHERGENOSSENSCHAFT

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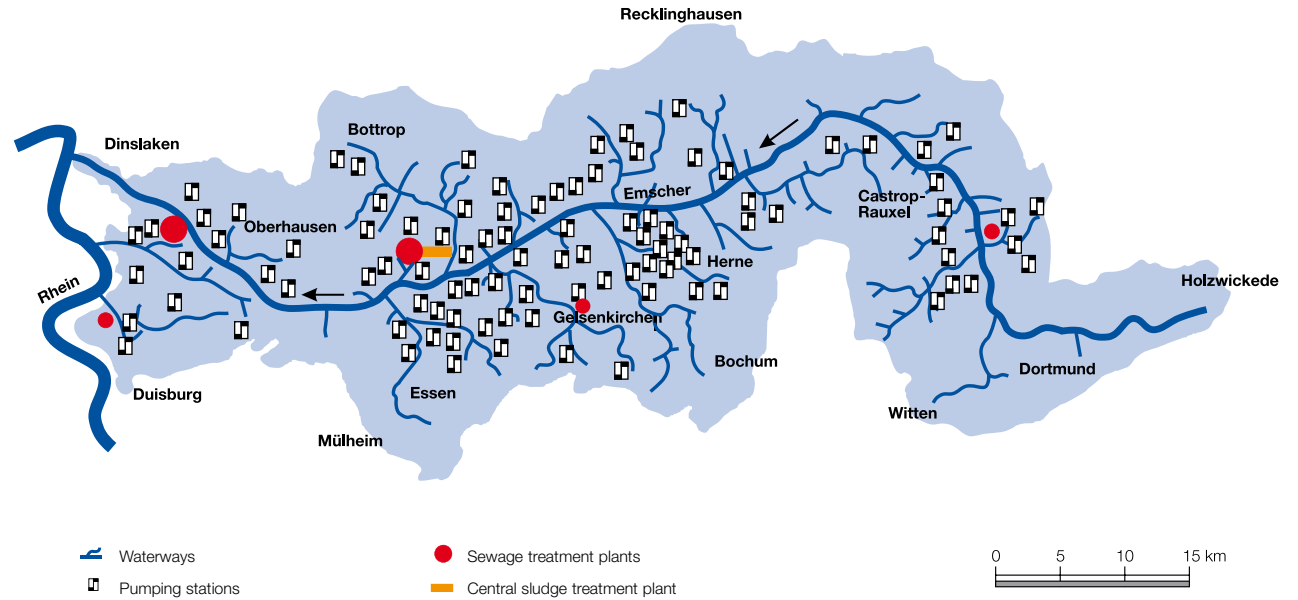


The EMSCHERGENOSSENSCHAFT

The EMSCHERGENOSSENSCHAFT (Emscher Water Management Association) was founded on December 14th 1899, and was the first German water board. It later inspired the foundation of several other water boards, among them the LIPPEVERBAND, which was founded on January 18th 1926.

When mining began in the region at the start of the 19th century, hygiene standards deteriorated noticeably due to local flooding and putrefying sewage. It was only through a comprehensive management concept for regulating sewage disposal and treatment, as well as drainage and flood protection, that the situation could be improved in the long term for people living near the River Emscher and its tributaries.

Our activities in the Emscher region can be traced back over 100 years. Drawing on the vast experience gained during this time, we are able to offer services tailored to the specific needs of people and the commercial development of the River Emscher catchment area. As a public corporation, the EMSCHERGENOSSENSCHAFT is supported by its members: cities, municipalities and mining and business partners.



Safe – clean – efficient

In the River Emscher and River Lippe region, human activities compete with the needs of the natural environment for water resources. It is our task to ensure that these diverse requirements are brought into a sustainable state of equilibrium. Residential and commercial interests must be taken into account, while at the same time undertaking the renaturation of a flourishing river environment rich in biodiversity – no easy task in a region which would often face flooding were it not for our intervention. In Europe's largest urban area, between Dortmund and Duisburg as well as in the northern perimeter of the Lippe region, we offer modern, cost-effective water management that covers a broad range of responsibilities:

- Sewage treatment
- Care and maintenance of waterways
- Natural remodelling of open waste water canals
- Flood protection
- Regulation of water flow
- Management of groundwater and rainwater

Members and catchment area

• Members	201
• Catchment area size	865 km ²
• Population	approx. 2.26 Mio.

Employees (as of Dec. 31, 2015)

• Permanent employees (incl. the LIPPEVERBAND)	1,557
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Waterways (as of June 30, 2016)	341 km
Of which clean waterways	122 km
Of which waste waterways	219 km

Waste water canals	328 km
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Dikes	116.92 km
Rheindeich Beeckerwerth	4.20 km
along the River Emscher	60.47 km
along the Emscher tributaries	52.25 km

Plants owned by the EMSCHERGENOSSENSCHAFT

• Sewage treatment plants with a capacity of approx. 4.8 million pop. equivalent	5
• Central sludge treatment plants	1
• Oxygenation plants	2
• Pumping stations	132
• Percentage of total area drained by pumping stations	37.8 %
• Flood control reservoirs	23
• Rainwater retention basins	27
• Rainwater treatment plants	87
• Storm water overflows	20