



Sewage treatment plant at the Wörme Hofgemeinschaft in Handeloh



Residents can service the plant themselves, as it is easy to manage; this gives people long-term responsibility for their own sewage disposal.

signed for a maximum of 100 resident equivalents. The sewage runs through the beds in two stages: first of all through four 80 centimetre deep beds arranged in parallel, with a infiltration length of 5 metres. In the second stage the beds are 1 metre deep with a infiltration length of 7 metres. The plants that grow there introduce considerable quantities of oxygen into the earth- or water-bearing layer. Aerobic decomposition processes are then set in train. After passing the sampling shaft the purified sewage runs into the little river Seeve via a semi-natural channel with plants growing in it. Very little care and maintenance has proved to be necessary. The purification beds have simply to be kept free of undesirable vegetation and woody plants. The pipes and gutters have to be flushed out three to four times a year to test and maintain their ability to function.

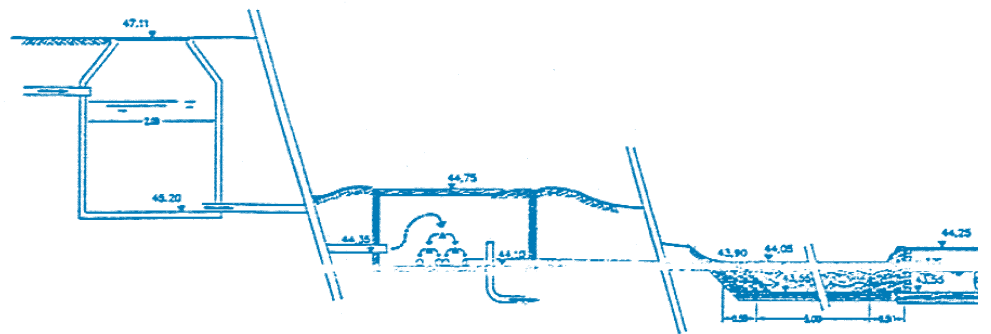
The plant has been working without problems, economically and without complaint since 1994. The Wörme farm's treatment plant has thus contributed to regional water quality, but also considerably reinforced its image as an organic farm and seminar venue.



The sewage seeps through several planted tanks and harmful substances are removed by organic decomposition processes at the various purification stages.



Sewage treatment for an agricultural establishment with nursery



Section through the various purification stages: sewage flows horizontally through plant filters.

Mechanical purification stage

Distribution manhole 1

Biological purification, stage 1

