

The Excretory System

Purpose: to rid the body of wastes, including excess water and salts

Major Organs and Their Functions

Kidneys – the main organs of the excretory system

-- waste-laden blood enters the kidney and the kidney filters out urea, excess water and other waste products, which eventually travel out of the kidney as urine

-- eventually they travel through the ureter to the urinary bladder

Rectum – solid (food) waste travels out of the body through the rectum

Skin – sweat glands remove excess water and salts from the body

Lungs – expel the waste gas carbon dioxide

