

Think Before You Flush

Everyday thousands of wet wipes, sanitary products and other unsuitable items are flushed down toilets instead of being put in the trash. This brings about costly damages. These costs can grow as more items that should be put in trash are instead flushed. As these costs increase, it will also increase sewer rates. As our costs go up so do yours!



SANITARY WIPES



TRASH



FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS



MEDICATIONS & SUPPLEMENTS



Prevent Sewer Backups

FATS, OIL & GREASE



MEDICAL SUPPLIES

We can all make a difference by making sure that toilets are used as toilets-not as trash cans. Remember- only human waste/fluids and toilet paper is all that should be flushed down the toilet. Nothing else goes there.

Things that should *never* be flushed:

Baby Wipes (including flushable or disposable): No matter what's on the label, "flushable" wipes do not disintegrate in water as quickly as toilet tissue does. This means that it can lodge in sewer pipes and clog the toilet.

Dental Floss: Waxed or unwaxed, dental floss becomes a net, catching all sorts of debris, clogging toilets and sewer pipes. When septic systems are involved, dental floss winds around moving parts and burns out motors.

Cat Litter (including flushable): The absorbent properties of litter are designed to clump and will clog sewer systems.

Cotton Balls, Cosmetic Pads, Cotton Swab, Facial Tissue and Paper Towels: These non-flushable items tend to gather and cause blockages in pipes.

Medications or Supplements: Wastewater treatment facilities are not designed to breakdown pharmaceuticals. What you toss in the toilet must be extracted in order to recycle it safely.

Medical Supplies: Razors, bandages and hypodermic needles are often flushed but they don't degrade. The razor blades and needles also present a danger to employees who need to remove the items that clog the system.

Rubber: Items such as latex gloves and condoms, are made of a material that is not intended to breakdown in liquid.

Feminine Hygiene Products (sanitary napkins, tampons and applicators): These products are designed to absorb liquids and swell in the process. They clog pipes, get stuck and block sewer lines.

Fats, Oil, and Grease: Known in the wastewater industry as 'FOG', are liquids that solidify when cooled, and this creates significant problems for public wastewater systems, as well as drains in your home.

Hair: Hair will never dissolve in water. In fact, it floats and easily gets caught on its way out of the toilet, snagging whatever comes its way. So, don't clean a brush or comb and toss the hair in the toilet.

Food Products: Food products simply do not disintegrate fast enough and can cause blockages throughout the system.

Trash of any kind: Litter such as food wrappers, rags, plastic bags, etc. does not easily break down.

Chemicals: Paint, automotive fluids and solvents are just terrible pollutants to flush. Just as wastewater treatment plants are not designed to screen out medications and supplements, these facilities are not designed to eliminate toxic chemicals.

Please note that this is not an all-inclusive list of items never to flush- it is simply some of the more common items that must not be flushed.

IF IN DOUBT THROW IT OUT (IN THE TRASH CAN)!