



**Protect The Sewer  
Protect The Environment**

**Don't FLUSH That!**

## Why Pay Attention to What Goes in the Sewer?

Sewers are designed to take human waste and transport it to wastewater treatment plant. When items other than human waste get flushed, problems can occur. Items that won't be able to be treated in the wastewater system or that clog the wastewater system cause your community's wastewater treatment facility to spend more money and energy. Keeping solids and other items out of the wastewater system keeps costs lower and less of a chance of sewage backups. Items that belong in the solid waste or garbage should never be flushed down the wastewater system. Why you SHOULD care: Sewer blockages can cause all of these:

- \*Plugged and overflowing toilets.
- \*Poorly draining sinks and showers.
- \*Raw sewage backing up through your drain.
- \*Manholes overflowing onto the ground or into nearby waters.
- \*Health hazards and odors.
- \*Increase in city's maintenance costs.
- \*Increase in homeowner's repair and maintenance costs.

### **Don't Flush That! *The following can clog the sewer:***

- |                            |                                |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| *Paper towels              | *Wipes - even 'flushable' ones |
| *Paper rags or cloth       | *Plastic                       |
| *Feminine hygiene products | *Diapers                       |
| *Mopheads                  | *Dental floss                  |
| *Shop rags                 | *Cigarette butts               |
| *Latex gloves              | *Needles                       |
| *Tissues                   | *Grease, fats, cooking oils    |

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