



Understanding What Not to Flush. How You Can Help Save Your Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewer Collection System

When you use your toilet, shower, washing machine or dishwasher, wastewater leaves your home through pipes that connect to the city sewer system.

Putting the wrong things down the drain can block or damage the public sewer system, cause sewer backups in your home, and could potentially enable unintended sewer spills.

Everyone who uses the city sewer system should be responsible for what they flush or pour down drains.

Many materials frequently flushed or poured down the drain can harm the pipes that connect to city sewers as well as the city's wastewater treatment plant.

Every property owner connected to the city sewer system can be a potential contributor to sewer problems, and a potential victim of those problems. In the same vein, every property owner can be part of the solution, too.

SAVE THE PIPES: DON'T FLUSH WIPES!



Wet wipes are one of the worst problems in modern sanitary systems. They are responsible for causing half of the total blockages that lead to build-ups of fat, also known as "fatbergs." Cosmetic wipes do not dissolve in water and have a very negative impact on the sewage treatment process. Likewise, baby wipes are not decomposable, so they shouldn't be flushed.

Basically, there are only three things you should ever flush down a toilet - human waste (urine and feces) and toilet paper: in other words, human waste, or the three Ps: pee, poo, and paper. Even though some products such as wipes and baby diapers claim to be flushable, but they really aren't.

Ashland's Wastewater Treatment Plant 1295 Oak Street, Ashland.



You Can Help – Don't Flush ...

Here is a list of some things to keep out of the toilet.

- disposable diapers
- tampons and tampon applicators
- sanitary napkins
- cotton balls and swabs
- mini or maxi pads
- condoms
- cleaning wipes of any kind
- facial tissue
- contact lenses
- chewing gum
- medications
- bandages and bandage wrappings
- diabetic needles
- automotive fluids
- paint, solvents, sealants and thinners
- poisons and hazardous waste
- pet poop
- cat litter

