

# Your Toilet is NOT A TRASHCAN

Just because you can flush something down the toilet doesn't mean that you should. Put trash in its place by throwing it in the trash can, and never flush it down your toilet.

Certain types of household waste, such as cleaning and baby wipes and personal hygiene products may flush down your toilet, but don't break down in the sewer system. Large quantities of these items in the pipes can lead to clogs, which can cause sewer overflows into the environment, or sewage backups into your home. If these products make it all the way through the sewer pipes to the wastewater treatment facility, they have to be skimmed off and disposed of properly at the landfill. Others, such as medicines, may break down but are expensive or impossible to remove, and may end up in our rivers and lakes.

## Flush This

The following items are safe to flush:

- ◆ The 'Three Ps'
  - » (toilet) Paper
  - » Pee
  - » Poop
- ◆ Mop water or other household cleaning water with diluted products



**Prevent problems with your pipes and costly repairs to our shared infrastructure by flushing only the items that they're meant to carry! Most household waste should be securely bagged and put in the trashcan instead.**

## Don't Flush That

The following items need to be thrown in the trashcan:

- ⊖ Any paper product that isn't toilet paper or a paper toilet seat liner
- ⊖ Wipes that say "Flushable"
- ⊖ Cleaning wipes
- ⊖ Personal hygiene and baby wipes
- ⊖ Menstrual hygiene products
- ⊖ Expired medication (instead take it to a pharmaceutical takeback or mix it with something non-consumable, like cat litter or bacon grease, before throwing it in the trash)
- ⊖ Cotton swabs, floss, bandages, razor blades, or any other personal hygiene products
- ⊖ Anything made of plastic, including bags
- ⊖ Prophylactics
- ⊖ Diapers
- ⊖ Hair
- ⊖ Cat litter or bagged animal waste
- ⊖ Fats, oils, and grease (FOG)
- ⊖ Paints and concentrated household cleaning chemicals (instead, take them to CHaRM or another facility that disposes of household chemicals)
- ⊖ Cigarette butts
- ⊖ Toys (be sure to educate the children in your home about not flushing their toys)

## On septic?

If you're on a septic system, it is important to realize that the items you flush down your toilet remain in your tank until they are pumped out. Prolong the life of your system by properly disposing of household wastes!



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