Proper use of Sewer Lines

The flushing of improper items can result in costly backups on your property and/or problems at your local wastewater treatment plant. Listed below are some items that should not be flushed down the toilet:

- Medical Waste
- Disinfecting sanitary wipes
- Wipes and diapers
- Rags and towels
- Cotton swabs
- Syringes
- Candy wrappers
- Clothing labels
- Cleaning sponges
- Toys
- Any plastic items
- Aquarium gravel
- Kitty litter
- Latex gloves
- Cigarette butts
- Sanitary napkins
- Hair
- Underwear
- Disposable toilet brushes
- Dental floss

Disposable does not mean Flushable

Even if the label reads “flushable,” you will have less backups and be environmentally correct if you properly dispose the item. These “disposable” items tend to block your sewer lines, which can result in costly backups and overflows. Since property owners are responsible for their property’s sewer pipes, improper flushing can be expensive to repair and cost you money.

FOG (Fat, Oils and Grease)

When flushed down the drain, FOGs (also known as Fats, Oils, and Greases), clog sewer lines as it collects and coats the pipes. This coating can get as hard as concrete! Over time, sewer pipe flows can be restricted and the lines can even seal completely. Please do not dispose of cooking grease, oils or fats, down the drain.

Other Concerns

Whatever ends up in the toilet or down the drain can potentially impact the water environment, so it’s really important to keep wastes such as cleaners, unused or expired pharmaceutical products, paint thinners, fats, diapers, disinfecting sanitary wipes, and medical waste out of toilets and drains and dispose of them properly. For more information, visit http://www.wef.org/AboutWater/ForThePublic/FactSheets/FactSheetDocuments/HouseholdWaste.htm.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact the TOMSA at 732-495-1010.