

Toilets Are Not Trashcans!

The start of a blocked pipe begins when grease and solids collect on the top and sides inside the pipe.



The build-up then increases over time when grease and other debris are washed or flushed down the drain.



Eventually the build-up will restrict the flow of wastewater and can result in a sewer overflow.



**TOILET PAPER IS THE ONLY
PRODUCT THAT'S REALLY
SAFE TO FLUSH**



This is a Trash Can



This is NOT!

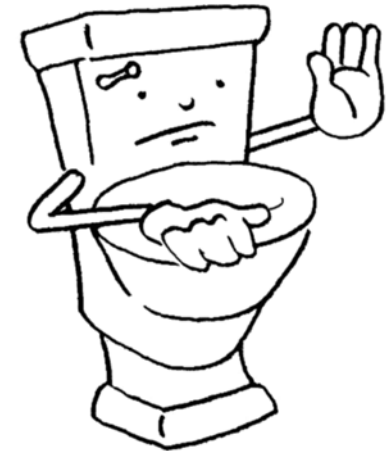


Astoria
Public Works

Phone: 503-325-3524
www.astoria.or.us

**A message from your
Public Works Department...**

Think Before You Flush!



Many items that are marked as disposable and/or flushable do not degrade like toilet paper. They wind up clogging pipes, tangling pumps and causing sewer backups into streets, businesses and homes.

How Can You Help?

FLUSH ONLY TOILET TISSUE

Other Products Will Plug the Pipes. "Flushable" wipes, cloths, diapers, floss, hygiene products, and other items are plugging pipes and may be costing you a lot of money. Even if the label says "flushable," these products don't break down in your wastewater system. They plug pipes and pumps, making a big mess and costing sewer ratepayers thousands of dollars.



Remember: Toilet tissue is the only product that's really safe to flush. Treat other items as trash and put them safely where they belong - in your garbage, not in the toilet.

What Not To Flush

- ◆ Vitamins, medicines or other pharmaceuticals. (Bring to Astoria Police Dept., 555 30th, weekdays 9-4)
- ◆ Diapers (cloth, disposable, or "flushable")
- ◆ Facial tissues
- ◆ Baby wipes, disinfectant wipes, moist wipes, etc.
- ◆ Toilet bowl scrub pads
- ◆ Swiffer products
- ◆ Napkins (paper or cloth), paper towels
- ◆ Dental Floss
- ◆ Fats, oils and greases
- ◆ Sanitary napkins, tampons, or any non-organic material
- ◆ Wash cloths, towels, underwear, rags (any cloth item)
- ◆ Plastic wrappers or packaging



What You CAN Do

- ◆ Only flush human waste and toilet paper.
- ◆ Avoid using "flushable" items. Clean with a sponge or rag that you can reuse.
- ◆ Place a wastebasket in the bathroom to dispose of personal hygiene products, razor blades, etc.
- ◆ Place produce food scraps in the compost/yard debris bins provided by Recology Western Oregon, or start a compost pile.
- ◆ Collect household grease in a safe container, let it cool and dispose of it in the garbage.
- ◆ Discard hazardous waste such as used paint, antifreeze, etc. at a household hazardous waste facility.
- ◆ If it can't be reused, recycled or composted, please place it in the garbage.

