

SEWER BACK-UP

PREVENTION INFORMATION

Roots

Shrub and tree roots seeking moisture will enter cracks in the sewer line and, as they grow, will cause significant damage to the pipe. The damaged sewer line will allow debris to build up causing a back-up. Replacing existing lines with new plastic pipe and not planting trees or shrubs near sewer lines are helpful in preventing roots from entering sewer lines.



Paper Products

They become lodged in portions of the lines where there is an accumulation of any type of debris, and dam up the line, causing a sewer back-up. These products should also be disposed of in a garbage can.

Sewer Odors

If sewer odors are present inside the house, check the “P-trap” under each drain to ensure that the trap has water in it to prevent odors from escaping the system. Floor drains and sinks that are only used occasionally may need to be flushed with water periodically to keep the “p-trap” filled. Sewer vents located on the roof should be inspected periodically and kept clear of bird nests, leaves and debris to allow odors to escape.



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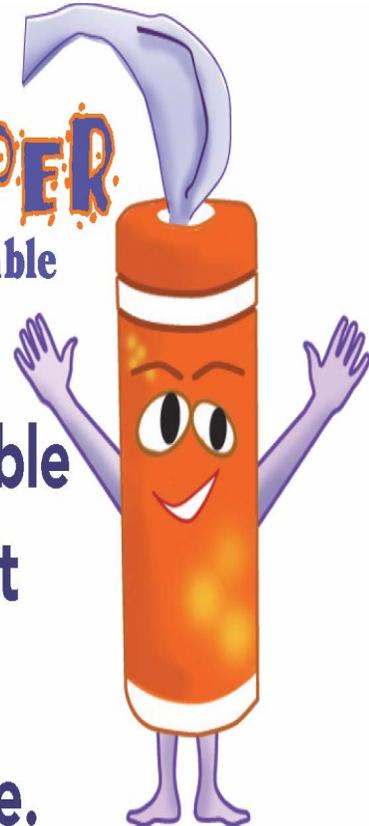


**Trash It,
Don't flush It!**



STOPPER
the unflushable

**Disposable
does not
mean
flushable.**



CITY OF WHITEFISH

**To Flush or Not to
Flush Brochure**

Helping to prevent clogged drains and backups is easy...

Do Flush

- Toilet Paper
- Human Waste



Keep your sewer system healthy!



Don't Flush

- Disposable diapers, baby wipes and nursing pads
- Facial wipes
- Dental Floss and teeth whitening strips
- Paper Towels
- Cotton Balls and swabs
- Band-aids and bandage wrappers
- Syringes or Needles
- Gum
- Feminine Products
- Condoms
- Paper towels, rags
- Disinfectant wipes, dusting pads/cleaning wipes of any kind
- Kitty litter/pet waste
- Bags or wrappers
- Hair, hair ties and rubber bands
- Paint, solvents, nail polish, polish remover
- Flammable or other toxic chemicals
- Prescription or over-the-counter medications
- Toilet bowl scrub pads
- Small animals; fish, snakes, hamsters, mice etc.



Look!

Mr. Plumber found a baby wipe after it has been flushed, gone through the collection system, and pulled from a pump station.



Just because the packaging on the product says it is “disposable” does not mean it is “flushable.”

Our toilets are designed for water, human waste and toilet paper— nothing else! Other items flushed down the toilet can cause blockages and damage to the sewer system.