



PROJECT MANAGER

CITY OF HACKENSACK

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Help maintain a healthy sewer system in Hackensack

Please **DO NOT FLUSH** 'flushable' wipes or other items down the toilet. Even wipes labeled as 'flushable' can clog your pipes and the City Sewer System, causing potential backups and expensive repairs. Dispose of all wipes properly in the trash can. For a clean and functioning sewer system, only flush toilet paper.

Don't Put These Items Down the Drain!

Disposable Wipes or Baby Wipes	Grease and/or Cooking Oil
Disposable Gloves	Paper Towels
Moist Towelettes	Toilet Cleaning Pads
Feminine Hygiene Products	Cotton Swabs
Any Medication	Diapers

'Flushable' Wipes and Grease Clog Our Pipes Help Us Keep Both Out of Our System

Why are flushable wipes such a big deal for our wastewater system?

Because once they go down the drain, they do not break down. Rather, they form dangerous clots that are more difficult to remove than residents might imagine.

For instance, even wipes that are advertised as 'flushable' **are not**. When flushed, wipes clump together and become difficult to pass through our collection system. They lead to back-ups in wastewater pipes and residential laterals.

Fats, oils, and greases are bad for sewers:

Over time, grease can build up and block your pipes completely causing a sewer backup. Most people assume that grease remains a liquid. However, after being flushed, grease forms solid clumps that can become as hard as concrete which cause significant damage to our system.

What can you do to help prevent sewer problems?

Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets, Scrape grease and food scraps into the trash. The only product that should be flushed is toilet paper, which is designed to disintegrate as it passes through our sewer lines. Other materials cause blockages in your home's pipes and can lead to issues for the sewer system as a whole.

Sincerely,

Ryan Westra

Licensed Wastewater Operator City of Hackensack