

Flushable?

Think again ...

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



What not to flush:

- Vitamins, medicines or other pharmaceuticals
- Diapers (cloth, disposable, "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, condoms, or any non-organic material
- Wash cloths, towels, rags, underwear (any cloth item)
- Plastic wrappers or packaging



So what CAN I do?

- Avoid purchasing "flushable" items. Clean with a sponge or a rag that you can reuse.
- Compost your food waste.
- Discard hazardous materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, etc. at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility (free of charge for Pierce County residents), 3510 S. Mullen St. For more information, visit www.cityoftacoma.org/hazwaste, or call 591-5418.
- If it can't be reused, recycled or composted, please place it in the garbage.



Public Works
Environmental Services
(253) 591-5588

www.cityoftacoma.org/wastewater

Don't pour it down the drain...

Grease goes in the garbage!

Grease, fats, oils and gravy that go down your sink, toilet or garbage disposal can stick to the inside of your kitchen drain and City sewer pipes.



What can happen?

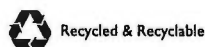
- Unpleasant, messy, expensive sewer backups into your home.
- City sewers back up and overflow into yards, streets or parks, creating a health hazard.
- Sewer overflows reach the stormwater system, flowing into waterways untreated.

What can you do?

- **Collect excess grease and cooking oil** from plates or pans and put it in a leftover milk, juice or food container (such as a tin can or plastic tub). Then seal it in a plastic bag and put it in the garbage.
- **Wipe pots and dishes** with a used paper towel or napkin to remove any oil and grease.
- **Put greasy food or fat trimmings in the trash**, not down the garbage disposal.
- **Recycle large amounts of cooking oil**, such as from deep-fat fryers, for no additional charge at the City's Household Hazardous Waste Facility, located at the Tacoma Landfill, 3510 S. Mullen St. For more information, visit www.cityoftacoma.org/hazwaste, or call 591-5418.



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