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Notice: Disposable Wipes Clog Pipes and Pumps!

Many household products are labeled and marketed as disposable; many baby hygiene products are labeled both disposable and flushable. While these products may be marketed as a convenience item in this way, the truth is that these household wipes and cleaning towelettes have the ability to clog and stop up not only the sewer line on your property, but also can cause blockage and service problems in the public sewer system and pump lift stations.

Unlike toilet paper, these products DO NOT break down once they are flushed. They can cause blockages in your privately owned sewer lateral, especially older pipelines that may have greases, roots, offset joints or other obstructions already existing. A blockage and repair to your sewer lateral line can be extremely costly and may even evolve into the home or business being uninhabitable until the problem is fixed.

On a larger scale in the sanitary sewer system, when these products make their way to the mainline, lift pumps and ultimately the treatment plant they can cause clogs, backups, broken equipment and costly repairs. One broken/plugged lift station can affect thousands of customers and cost tens of thousands of dollars to repair. Costly repairs could affect future wastewater rates.

What can you do to help.....?

The following items should never be flushed to the sewer system:

- Disinfecting wipes, Baby wipes
- Q-Tips
- Toilet cleaning pads
- Mop or "Swiffer" type refills
- Paper towels
- Disposable diapers
- Feminine hygiene products
- Moist towelettes
- ANY consumer item that is not toilet paper

Save yourself and Hudson Utilities from costly repair bills. Do not flush the listed items; place them in the trash for proper disposal, not the toilet.

Thank you,

Kip Peters
Utility Director