



IS IT FLUSHABLE OR DISPOSABLE?

Many products advertised as flushable, disposable and ecological may take several weeks to months to degrade and wind up clogging pipes and pumps, causing backups and overflows into streets, businesses and homes.

Using the toilet for disposal of many products will often result in blockages. The drains that connect a home to the main sewer line are only big enough to carry water, toilet paper and human waste, and the Gig Harbor Wastewater Treatment Plant is designed to treat only those items.

PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS and products containing **CHEMICAL AGENTS** of any sort, when flushed down the toilet, can end up in streams and ultimately the Puget Sound. Many pharmacies and the Gig Harbor Police Department (851-2236) will accept leftover prescriptions and over-the-counter medicines and dispose of them properly. Take paints, oils and other products containing chemicals to the Hazardous Waste Facility (free of charge) at the Tacoma landfill off of Center Street at 3510 S. Mullen St. Call the Household Hazardous Waste Line 800-287-6429 for more information.

DISPOSING OF COOKING GREASE AND FOOD

Washing food and grease into sink drains can cause home sewer line and City main sewer line blockages, resulting in unnecessary costs to home owners and the City of Gig Harbor. Pour excess cooking fats and oils in an empty can and store in the fridge. The liquid will harden to form a solid and can be disposed of in the garbage can. Scrape excess food scraps into the garbage, not down the sink.

Examples of what NOT to flush down your toilet and sink:

GARBAGE

Band-aids, bandage wrappers	Tights and pantyhose	Cotton balls or swabs
Sanitary pads	Condoms	Hair
Sanitary tampon applicators	Sanitary Pads	Rags and cloths
Fruit stickers	Dental floss	Hair
Disposable diapers	Razors	Baby Wipes
Cigarettes	Food waste	Cleaning wipes

Rubber or plastic items (latex gloves and plastic utensils, for example)

RECYCLE OR COMPOST WHENEVER POSSIBLE

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact our waste water utility at (253) 851-9999.