

# **Love your Pipes**

The drains in your home aren't something you think about each day; yet dumping certain items down your drain can result in sewer backups, costly repairs for both homeowners and sewer authorities, and polluted waterways.

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## ***Don't Turkey Your Drain***

Fats, oils, and grease (FOG) should not be poured down the kitchen sink, as they can cause clogged pipes, backups, and necessitate costly repairs. These materials can harden as they travel through pipes, and stick to the interior walls, creating a drag on water flow, and eventually, clogging altogether. FOG should be disposed of in the trashcan.

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## **Can the Wipes!**



“Flushable” wipes are becoming increasingly popular – and are causing backups in homes across the U.S. These wipes should be disposed of in the trashcan, not the toilet. They can clog up pipes, and get tangled in pumps and sewer equipment, causing sewerage backups, and costly repairs for homeowners and wastewater utilities alike. “Flushable” wipes, along with baby wipes, dental floss, mop refills, paper towels, towelettes, and cleaning wipes also should be put into the trashcan. Only toilet paper and human waste (the “3Ps”) should be flushed. Save yourself and your wastewater utility from a pain in the drain – flush only the 3Ps!

For more information, please visit:

["Flushable Wipes and Other Non-Dispersible Products."](#) The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) has posted numerous resources on the issue.

["Will It Flush?"](#) Check out this educational video created by the City of Spokane Department of Wastewater Management and shared in partnership with the Water Environment Federation.

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## Unused Medication

Unwanted and unused medication can present opportunities for environmental contamination, drug abuse and accidental poisonings. Pharmaceuticals should not be flushed down the toilet or poured down the sink – wastewater treatment facilities are not equipped to treat these materials.

Individuals may drop off unused or out dated **prescription drugs** at the Cedarburg Police Department. This service is being offered as a way in which to help eliminate prescription drug abuse, accidental poisonings, etc. Contrary to previous advice, unused/old medications should not be disposed of in the sink or toilet because studies have shown these medications are not being purified at wastewater treatment plants and are ending up in local waterways.

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## Household Hazardous Waste

Old paint and adhesives are just a few examples of hazardous materials that also should be properly disposed of - and not placed down your drain. For information on how to properly dispose of hazardous materials, please visit: [www.co.ozaukee.wi.us/295/Land-Water-Management](http://www.co.ozaukee.wi.us/295/Land-Water-Management)