



Town of Stafford Water Pollution Control Authority

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DATE: June 25, 2014
TO: All Stafford Sanitary Sewer Users
FROM: Stafford Water Pollution Control Authority
RE: Items/Materials Prohibited from Discharge into Sanitary Sewers

Most sewer users are well aware of what they can and cannot put into the sewer system. We sincerely thank those of you who are diligent for your cooperation. To those who are unaware this letter is intended to educate you and request your help so that we can keep Stafford's sewer system flowing smoothly.

The following items should not be introduced into the public sewer system, either directly or through a kitchen waste disposal unit:

Aquarium Gravel/Sand/Stone	Disposable Toilet Bowl Scrubbers	Plastic Bags/Objects
Bones	Egg Shells	Prophylactics/Condoms
Candle Wax	Fire Place Ashes	Sanitary Napkins/Tampons
Cat Litter	Gloves - Latex/Rubber	Seafood Shells
Cigarette Butts	Hair Clippings/Pet Hair	Syringes/Needles & Tip Guards
Cooking Grease/Oil/Lard	Metal Objects	Wipes - Baby, Cleaning, Sanitary
Dental Floss	Non-Dissolving Tissue/Toilet Paper	Wood Objects
Diapers, socks, rags, or cloth	Paper Towels	Waste Food Products

The above and similar items will cause blockages that could back up into your home or cause environmental damage. While most of these items seem obvious you might be surprised how often they turn up, and the expense that is incurred to remove them or replace damaged pumps and equipment. Highlighted items may not be as obvious and as a result cause significant operational problems. A simple step you can take to reduce the amount of grease that goes down the drain is to wipe down greasy dishes with paper towels before washing them.

Never put any of the following liquids into the sewer system:

Antifreeze	Gasoline/Kerosene	Paint Thinner/Turpentine
Corrosive/Acidic Material	Lubricating Oil	Solvents Cleaning/Degreasing
Explosives	Medicines	Strong Chemicals
Flammable Material	Paint	

These items may interact with other chemicals in the public sewer system causing damage to the sewer infrastructure and creating dangerous conditions for sewer workers.

Also, it is unlawful to have sources of rainwater or groundwater connected to the sewer system. As a reminder here are examples of illegal connections:

Groundwater	Stormwater/Surface Water
Sump Pumps Footings Drains Curtain Drains French Drains	Yard Drains Roof Leaders Downspouts

The best way to deal with ‘clean water’ is to discharge it over land away from the road.

Water treatment backwash is also prohibited from discharging into the sewer system. Many “whole house” water filters and water softeners have automatic backwash features and this discharge should be directed into a dry well or simply onto your lawn.

Again thank you to the majority of you who are already complying with these guidelines. Thank you in advance to those of you who may have been unaware but are in the process of complying. Only with your help can the WPCA maintain an effective sewer system. If you have any questions please contact Richard Hartenstein Jr., the Chief Operator at 860-684-4914.