



# Is it flushable?

One of the best ways to prevent plumbing backups and overflows at home and in the sewer system is to limit what goes down the toilet. Flushing wipes and anything else that isn't paper can lead to clogged pipes, a big mess and expensive repairs.

All the drains and pipes in your home flow into the sewer system and end up at the **HDWD Wastewater Reclamation Facility**, where solids are filtered out and the remaining water goes through a multi-step treatment process. It's important to keep the system working properly by watching what you flush.

## **Avoid plumbing problems by putting these items in the trash:**

- ✗ Cotton swabs, cotton balls & makeup pads
- ✗ Diapers
- ✗ Cigarettes
- ✗ Feminine hygiene products & applicators
- ✗ Dental floss
- ✗ Bandages
- ✗ Hair
- ✗ Paper towels
- ✗ Kitty litter
- ✗ Condoms & wrappers
- ✗ Wipes of all types
- ✗ Teeth whitening strips
- ✗ Prescription & over-the-counter medications



## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Many items that are labeled "flushable" or "disposable" are actually not safe to flush. Baby wipes, facial wipes and cleaning wipes create stoppages within sewer pipes. They cling to fats, oils and grease in the system, forming giant blockages known as "fatbergs." These greasy blobs are expensive and time-consuming to remove.

For more information about caring for your pipes, visit us online at [hdwd.com/sewerconnections](http://hdwd.com/sewerconnections) or call 760-365-8333.





# Watch what you flush





## Safe medication disposal

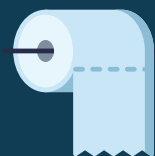
It was once common practice to flush unwanted medicines down the toilet, but not anymore. The wastewater treatment system is not designed to remove medications, so they can end up contaminating the water supply.

To safely dispose of unused, old or expired medicines, the Food and Drug Administration recommends using a drug take-back program at your local pharmacy or a household hazardous waste collection site.



## To discard medicines at home, follow these steps:

-  Mix liquid medicines or pills with an unappealing substance such as dirt, kitty litter, or used coffee grounds (**do not crush tablets or capsules**)
-  Place the mixture in a container such as a sealed plastic bag
-  Dispose of the container in your trash at home
-  Remove all personal information on the prescription label and place it in the trash or recycling.



## Please remember:

- Don't use your toilet as a trashcan!
- Flush toilet paper only. Everything else goes in the trash can.



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