The Bureau of Environmental Services serves the Portland community by protecting public health, water quality and the environment.

We provide sewage and stormwater collection and treatment services to accommodate Portland's current and future needs.

We protect the quality of surface and ground waters and conduct activities that plan and promote healthy ecosystems in our watersheds.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY OF PORTLAND

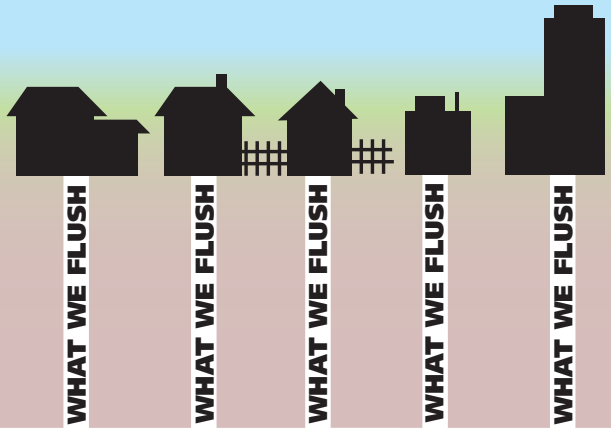
working for clean rivers

Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
Dean Marriott, Director

1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Room 1000
Portland, Oregon 97204

For disability accomodation requests:
Call 503-823-7740, TTY 503-823-6868
Oregon Relay Service 1-800-735-2900

Printed on recycled paper. OD 1129 sept 2011



MATTERS

Many things routinely flushed down the toilet or washed down the drain can damage the sewer system, cause sewer backups in homes, and sewage releases to the environment.

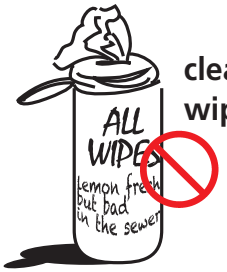
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY OF PORTLAND

working for clean rivers

Sewers are designed to carry water, human waste and toilet paper, period.

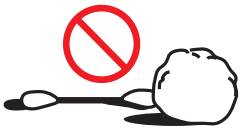
Even diapers, wipes and other products sold as "flushable" can damage the sewer system, block sewer lines (including the line that connects your home to the public sewer) and cause expensive maintenance problems.

never flush these items



cleaning wipes

disposable diapers, nursing pads and baby wipes



cotton balls, swabs and pads

facial wipes and tissue

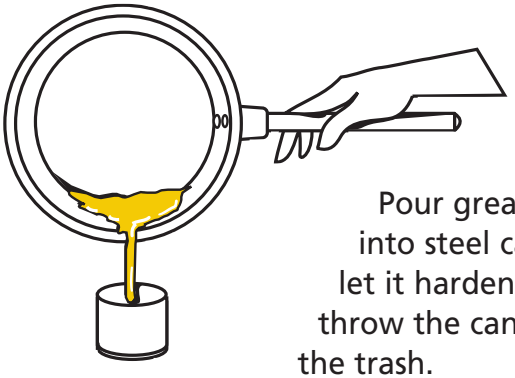
in the kitchen

Keep cooking fats, oil and grease (FOG) from building up inside pipes and clogging sewers. Garbage disposals don't keep grease out of the sewer system.

Scrape food scraps into the garbage or compost bin.

Put a strainer in the sink drain to catch food scraps and throw scraps in the garbage or compost bin.

Minimize garbage disposal use.



Pour grease into steel cans, let it harden and throw the can in the trash.

for more information

www.portlandonline.com/bes/whatnottoflush
www.portlandonline.com/bes/grease