



ATTENTION VILLAGE OF MONTROSE RESIDENTS

Protect Our Wastewater System What you flush and pour matters!

Did you know that overuse of chemicals kill the good bacteria at the treatment plant?

Our municipal wastewater treatment system is designed to handle only **HUMAN WASTE and TOILET PAPER**. Anything else can clog pipes, damage equipment, and harm the environment. Help keep our community's system running smoothly by following these guidelines:

Toilet Do's and Don'ts

✓ Do

- Flush only **human waste and toilet paper**

✗ Don't flush:

- **Wipes** – even “flushable” wipes, baby wipes, or cleaning wipes
- **Personal hygiene products** – tampons, pads, cotton swabs, cotton balls, dental floss
- **Non-biodegradables** – condoms, paper towels, tissues, cigarette butts, cat litter
- **Medication** – return unused or expired medicine to a pharmacy
- **Hazardous chemicals** – **bleach, paint, pesticides, solvents**

Kitchen Drain Do's and Don'ts

Do

- Use a **drain strainer** to catch food scraps (dispose in trash or compost)
- Pour **cooled grease/oils** into a sealed container before throwing away

Don't pour down the drain:

- **Fats, oils, and grease (FOG)** – cooking oils, butter, margarine, sauces
 - **Expanding foods** – rice, pasta, oatmeal
 - **Hard-to-grind items** – coffee grounds, eggshells, fibrous vegetables
 - **Flour** – it turns into a glue-like paste in pipes
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General Water Conservation

Do

- Take **shorter showers** and fix leaks
- Run washing machines and dishwashers only when **full**
- Direct roof drains, sump pumps, and yard runoff **away from the sewer system**

Don't

- Overuse harsh **chemical cleaners** – they kill good bacteria at the treatment plant
 - Run multiple high-water-use appliances at the same time
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Why It Matters?

Improper disposal of waste leads to:

- Costly **clogs and pipe damage**
- Increased **maintenance and taxes**
- Pollution that **harms rivers, lakes, and aquatic life**

By following these simple steps, every household helps protect our community's infrastructure and the environment.

**The Village of Montrose Public Works
thanks you for your cooperation!**

