Type of Waste	To Flush or Not to Flush	Conditions
Personal Care Items		
Dental Floss	✗	Dispose of it in your garbage.
Diapers	✗	Even "flushable" diapers will clog pipes.
Baby wipes/cleaning wipes	✗	Dispose of it in your garbage.
Lotions and perfume	✗	Dispose of it in your garbage.
Nail polish	✗	Take it to a Toxic Round Up for disposal.
Pharmaceuticals/medicines	✗	Return unused prescriptions to the pharmacist.
Pet Waste		
Feces	✓	Just the feces, not the bag.
Cat litter	✗	Put it into a bag and then put it in your garbage.
Cage lining (e.g., newspaper)	✗	Dispose of it in your garbage.
Wood shavings	✗	Dispose of it in your garbage.
Household Products		
Detergent	✓	
Paint and turpentine	✗	Take it to a Toxic Round Up for disposal.
Paint stripper	✗	Lye based only.
Solvents	✗	Take it to a Toxic Round Up for disposal.
Cleaners	✗	Take it to a Toxic Round Up for disposal.
Floor and furniture polish	✗	Take it to a Toxic Round Up for disposal.
Glue	✗	Dispose of it in your garbage or take it to a Toxic Round Up.
Grease	✗	Allow it to set and dispose of it in your garbage.
Garbage and Garden		
Windshield washer fluid	✓	
Fertilizer	✗	Take it to a Toxic Round Up for disposal.
Herbicides and insecticides	✗	Take it to a Toxic Round Up for disposal.
Oil and antifreeze	✗	Take it to a Toxic Round Up for disposal.

For more information about protecting your local watershed visit **epcor.ca**.

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04/10

Should I Flush That?

How to keep your home's sewer lines running smoothly and protect your local watershed

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Have you ever stopped to wonder what happens to those materials you flush down the toilet, pour down the sink or dump into a street grate? They can wind up harming the local river, clogging the sanitary sewer system, and hampering the operation of the wastewater treatment plant. Here are a few useful tips to help keep these systems running smoothly and to prevent sewer backups into your home.

TOILETS

- Flushed **dental floss** can get wrapped around the back-flow valve in the sanitary sewage pipe resulting in raw sewage backing up into your basement. Please put it in the garbage.
- **"Flushable" baby wipes, cleaning wipes** and **disposable diapers** can quickly clog up a sewer pipe. For soiled diapers, the best solution is to empty the contents into the toilet and then put the diaper in a plastic bag and into the garbage.
- Unneeded **pharmaceutical products** and over-the-counter **drugs** should be safely disposed of at your local pharmacy or Toxic Round Up. Wastewater treatment facilities are not designed to remove these products, so they will be discharged untreated into our lakes and rivers.

SINKS

- Do not pour **fats**, **oils** and **grease** (FOG) or other food scraps down the sink drain. They can clog your sanitary sewer piping, leading to costly repairs. Contrary to popular belief, running hot water down the drain or adding soap to the hot water will not help to clear these substances from your pipes. Residents are encouraged to pour used FOG into a tin and then dispose of it into the garbage.
- Do not pour **paint**, **engine oil**, **pesticides** or **chemicals** down the sink or toilet. Some hazardous materials can corrode the sanitary sewer piping and structures, while others complicate the wastewater treatment process.

Never send the following items down the toilet or drain.*

- Plastics such as bags, balloons, etc.
- All feminine hygiene products
- Cardboard
- Grease
- Oil, lubricants, antifreeze
- Bleach or other cleaning products
- Paint, varnish, and solvents
- Prescription and non prescription medications
- Pesticides and herbicides

** See detailed list of items on the waste disposal chart on back page.*

STREET GRATES

- Anything that is washed or poured into grates at the side of the street will wind up flowing through the storm water system into the local river or lake. **Fertilizers**, **lubricants, soap** and other **chemicals** often present in storm water are harmful to aquatic life and may cause excessive algae growth.
- Storm water does not receive any treatment, so please safely dispose of all household hazardous material and animal wastes to help keep our rivers and waterways clean.