

You Can't Flush That...

The Town of Saguache continues to have problems with people flushing things they shouldn't down their toilets or pouring them down their drains. This causes problems for the people doing the flushing, their neighbors and the town sewer lines and water treatment system.

*It's not just about having to clean the lines. The town is working hard to keep from being mandated to build a new sewer treatment plant—which would cost around **23 (that's twenty-three) million dollars**. Even if three-fourths of the money could come from grants, that would leave at least a \$3 million debt for the town. And along with that would come a requirement for water metering and much higher water and sewer rates for everyone.*

Basically, the only thing you should flush down a toilet is human waste (that's urine and feces, people) and toilet paper. Here is a list of some things to keep out of the toilet:

- disposable diapers
- incontinence products like Depends and Tena
- pet poop
- tampons and tampon applicators
- sanitary napkins
- mini or maxi pads
- cleaning wipes of any kind (baby wipes, Clorox wipes etc.)
- cotton balls and swabs
- condoms
- facial tissue (it doesn't break down like toilet paper)

- bandages and bandage wrappings
- poisons and hazardous waste

Motor Oil, Paint Etc.

Automotive fluids like motor oil and brake and transmission fluid should never go down the drain—toilet, sink or shop drain. Ditto for paint, solvents, sealants and thinners.

Unused Medications

Never flush unused medications down the toilet. You can safely dispose of medications in the garbage.

Fats, Oils and Grease

Grease in sewer pipes causes maintenance problems for property owners and the town. Never pour grease down your sink drain, and try to use your garbage disposal less.

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