

WHAT NOT TO FLUSH

A PSA FROM THE WESTFIELD DPW



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic there has been an overwhelming response by the public to purchase and stockpile toilet paper, leading to shortages nationwide.

An unfortunate side effect of these shortages has been reports of people flushing “alternatives” to toilet paper down their toilet, and into the sewer system.



This is a hazardous practice and can cause a number of issues with the sewer piping, pumps, and various infrastructures related to wastewater recovery in addition to the plumbing in your home.

Please only flush human waste and toilet paper to ensure the safety of the system.

A list of potential toilet paper alternatives that **should never** be flushed due to their inability to break down*:

- X Wipes** – *These may be labeled “flushable” but they are not. They don’t degrade in the same manner as traditional toilet paper.*
- X Paper Towels**
- X Napkins**
- X Tissues**
- X Rags**
- X Sponges**
- X Newspaper or office paper**

*In addition to this list you should never flush cotton swabs, sanitary napkins or any other solid items.

If you must use any of these alternatives, please put them in the trash, not the toilet.

The practice of over-buying and hoarding toilet paper is ill-advised. Please only buy what you need to make sure the supply is sufficient for the community.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping ensure the safe operation of our sewer system and your home’s plumbing.