



EVERYONE

can help prevent basement flooding and reduce wastewater treatment costs by educating themselves on the wastewater System.

DO NOT FLUSH



Diapers

Wipes

Medicine

Paper Towels

What is allowed in the toilet?

- Human sanitary waste
- Toilet paper

What about products labelled as FLUSHABLE?

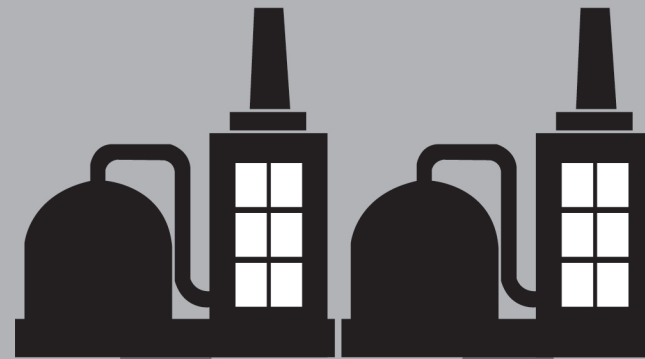
Product manufacture's may advertise that a product is flushable. However, there is currently no standard outlining what is flushable. A product is flushable only if it can break down in water within seconds (e.g. toilet paper).

The Public Works Department is responsible for **1,697km** of sanitary/storm sewers and **42** pumping stations.

72%

of homeowners admit to flushing items down the toilet that should be disposed of in another manner.

Pumps clogged with
FLUSHABLE WIPES



2 WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS

process and remove physical, chemical and biological contaminants from all of Windsor's sewage.

TEST IT YOURSELF



Toilet Paper (left), Flushable Wipe (right)
Put product in jar and shake for 30 seconds.
Does it break down like toilet paper?

The Sewer System

The Public Works department is responsible for maintaining the City's wastewater system: 1,697 km of sanitary and storm sewers, 2 sewage treatment plants and 42 pump stations. Sewer back-ups damage infrastructure and can affect public health. Sewer lines clogged with a build up of wipes, personal care products and fats, oils, and greases contribute to sewer backups. To dispose of these items correctly, please place them in the garbage. **Human waste and toilet paper are the only materials that should be flushed down the toilet.** The City of Windsor needs everyone to do their part to help maintain the sewer system so that costly excess repairs and maintenance will not be required.



Are Wipes Flushable?

Personal wipes including baby wipes, cleansing wipes, or wipes used by health care professionals should not be flushed down the toilet. These wipes can build-up in the City's sewer system or in your personal sanitary sewer connections. This build up can lead to expensive maintenance costs or basement flooding.

What about Feminine Hygiene Products?

Similar to wipes, feminine hygiene products must not be flushed down toilet.

If a product does not break down as quickly as toilet paper, it may cause problems in the system.

"They're billed as a fresh, clean alternative to toilet paper – but wastewater utilities across Canada say personal wipes are creating sewage clogs that are costing Canadian taxpayers at least \$250 million a year"

– CBC News

Learn More:

Have you ever wondered what happens to water and other substances when they are flushed down our drains and toilets? It shouldn't be a mystery. The City of Windsor and the Detroit River Canadian Cleanup have partnered to create a wastewater video to help de-mystify the topic, and educate viewers. The video follows the flow of waste and storm water from a home in Windsor to one of two places: the wastewater treatment plant or the Detroit River. Using stunning graphics, the video highlights where the water goes, tips on what you should and shouldn't put down the drain, and how our wastewater gets treated before being released into the Detroit River.

"Number one, number two and TP...toilet paper" is the video's final reminder. View the video on the City of Windsor's YouTube channel (Environmental Master Plan section).

Wastewater: Where does it go? Watch the video at: windsorenvironmentalmasterplan.ca



THE TRUTH ABOUT FLUSHABLE WIPES

And Our Wastewater System



windsorenvironmentalmasterplan.ca

