

## SMART WASTEWATER SYSTEM USE

Whether you're tied into the town's sewer system or have a septic system, protecting our environment is everybody's business. The Wilton Sewer Ordinance, adopted in 1987, keeps us in compliance with State and Federal Laws required by the Clean Water Act of 1977 and allows our continued use of the Milford Wastewater Treatment Facility. Few people will read the entire ordinance so here's some tips and one simple guideline for using sewer or septic systems: **IF IN DOUBT, DON'T POUR IT OUT.**

Pipes running from a house to a septic or Municipal collection system thrive on water moving freely through them. Certain chemicals in wastewater can cause major indigestion. Flushing even small amounts of paints, solvents, thinners, nail polish removers and common household compounds (or pouring them down the drain) can clog pipes. Laundry bleaches, toilet bowl cleaners and caustic drain openers can also slow the process.



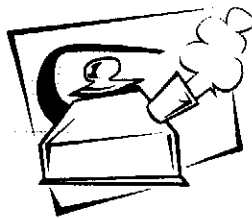
Septic systems can't digest oils, grease and fat ... neither can a sewer system. Poured down the sink or toilet, they'll congeal in pipes sometimes plugging them. Grease can also combine with detergents and clog the pipes even further. All oily waste should go out with the garbage.



Use garbage disposals sparingly to prevent clogs, back-ups; or try composting..

Using your septic system or the sewer system to dispose of paper, plastics or other so-called biodegradable products is another no-no. Disposable diapers, tampons and their holders, condoms, wrappers and many other kinds of refuse can plug septic systems and sewer lines. If it doesn't break down naturally, it should go out with the garbage.

Never flush cat litter, coffee grounds, diapers, towelettes (even the 'flushable' type), cigarette butts, tampons, condoms, grease, dental floss, baby wipes, paints, thinners, pesticides, oils, medicines, or excessive household chemicals. All of these can cause problems in septic systems or sewer lines.



Do not use caustic drain openers for clogged drains. Use boiling water or a drain snake instead.

Use commercial bathroom cleaners and laundry detergents in moderation. Try cleaning toilets, sinks, showers, and tubs with a mild detergent or baking soda.

**IF IN DOUBT, DON'T POUR IT OUT** – help the Wilton Sewer Customers save money and keep our environment clean and green. Thank you!



Wilton Sewer Commission meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM in the Town Hall Courtroom. Meetings are open to the public. For more information, visit <http://www.ci.wilton.nh.us>