

The 3-P's of Managing Your Wastewater System

Whether you're tied to the town's sewer or use a septic system, protecting our environment is everybody's business. The Wilton Sewer Ordinance, adopted 1987, keeps us in compliance with State and Federal Laws required by the 1977 Clean Water Act and lets us use the Milford Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Few people read the ordinance - here's some tips on using your systems wisely.

WHEN IN DOUBT, DON'T POUR IT OUT Pipes from a house to a sewer or septic system thrive on water moving freely through them. Chemicals in wastewater can cause major indigestion. Flushing even a little paint, solvents, thinners, nail polish removers and common household compounds (or pouring them in the drain) can clog pipes. Laundry bleaches, bowl cleaners, caustic drain openers also slow the process.

Septic systems can't digest oils, grease or fat – neither can a municipal sewer system.

Poured into a sink or toilet, these congeal in pipes and plug them. Grease combined with detergents clog pipes even more. All oily waste should go out with the garbage. Use garbage disposals sparingly. Even better, start composting – gardens will love it!



Using your sewer or septic line to dispose of paper, plastics or so-called biodegradable products is a NO-NO.

Disposable diapers, tampons (and holders), condoms, wrappers and other refuse plug sewer lines and septic tanks.

If it doesn't break down naturally, put it out with the garbage.



Never flush cat litter, coffee grounds, diapers, towelettes (even 'flushable' ones), cigarette butts, tampons, condoms, grease, dental floss, baby wipes, paints, thinners, pesticides, oils, medicines, or excessive household chemicals.

All of these cause problems in sewer and septic systems.

Don't use caustic drain openers for clogged drains. Use boiling water or a drain snake instead. Use commercial bathroom cleaners and laundry detergents in moderation. Clean toilet, sink, tub, shower with a mild detergent or baking soda.

Simply put, the only things to go into a toilet or down the drain are the 3 – Ps – Pee, Poop and Paper – when every does this, sewer users and the community will save money and keep our environment clean and green!

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

