

What Not to FLUSH



When you flush your toilet, flushed material leaves your home through pipes that connect to the City's wastewater system. But did you know that many materials that are flushed or poured down the drain can harm or block the pipes in the system?

Toilet paper breaks down in water and rarely causes a blockage. Other materials may not break down, which can plug your pipes, and cause a sewer backup and flooded basement.

Avoid a costly, messy, and time-consuming cleanup. To help prevent a blockage, you should flush only:

- Human waste
- Toilet paper

Products that can **clog** the wastewater system, **cause a sewer backup** or **damage** the wastewater treatment plant, **should not** be flushed.

Do not flush the following items:

- Paper products (i.e. tissues, paper towel and paper napkins)
- Wipes of any kind (i.e. baby wipes, cleaning and makeup wipes)
- Disposable diapers
- Feminine hygiene products
- Q-tips, cotton balls and cotton swabs
- Bandages and wrappings
- Medications (i.e. pills, capsules, and liquids)
- Dental floss
- Disposable toilet cleaning brushes
- Cat litter
- Condoms
- Hair from hairbrushes
- Toothpicks
- Fats, oils and grease
- Vegetable and fruit scraps
- Needles and sharps
- Motor oil, Varsol and paint thinner

Please dispose of these materials in the garbage or at the household hazardous waste drop-off at the Waste Management Facility.

Products may be advertised as flushable, but it doesn't mean they are safe for your system.



For more information, visit us online at www.reddeer.ca or contact:

The City of Red Deer
Environmental Services
Box 5008, Red Deer, AB T4N 3T4
environmentalservices@reddeer.ca

 @CityofRedDeer  [fb.com/TheCityofRedDeer](https://www.facebook.com/TheCityofRedDeer)