



Don't Flush Used Rubber Gloves and Disinfecting Wipes

Rubber Gloves and Disinfecting Wipes Should Not Be Flushed!

The national response to the Coronavirus emergency has resulted in greatly increased use of medical related products by both hospitals and citizens in their residences. Items that have seen increased use include rubber gloves, masks, and disinfecting wipes as well as other items. Following use, proper disposal of these products is important so that sanitary problems do not result. It is not appropriate to flush these items into the sewer system. Flushing of these items will cause the sewer system, including septic systems, to malfunction. Malfunctioning sewer systems result in sanitary hazards to the public and increased risk to wastewater system workers that are tasked with clearing and repairing the wastewater systems. Similarly, septic system repairs or replacements can be very costly to homeowners.

Two items that are sometimes inappropriately flushed and causing problems during this national emergency are rubber gloves and disinfecting wipes. These items should not be flushed but rather should be disposed of through the normal trash collection. Sewer systems are not designed to accept these products and system failures result. Sewer systems are designed to accept only human waste and toilet paper.

The following is a short list of items that should never be flushed into the sewer systems.

- Rubber Gloves
- Disinfecting Wipes
- Masks
- Pills (Discarded Medications)
- Hygiene Items (Sanitary Pads, etc.)
- Diapers
- Hair
- Floss
- Towels
- Syringes
- Toys

In order to protect the functioning of the wastewater systems and to protect the workers that maintain wastewater systems, flush only human waste and toilet paper.



For More Information Contact:

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