

What We Can't Flush Down The Drain!



Don't Be Tempted!

It may be tempting to flush some items down drains or toilets. But those same items cannot disintegrate easily and may lead to blockages.

When drains and sewers are blocked, the knock-on effects include foul waste flooding, plastic pollution, expensive repair works and general disruption to everyone.

In this guide, we've highlighted items that are familiar to us all that we *Can't Flush Down The Drain!*



Cooking Fats, Oils, Butter and Margarine

Oils and fats including butter and olive oil, solidify and form blockages easily and quickly. They are difficult to pass through drains and pipes. And they form fatbergs.

Once cooled, put your oils and fats into a container and dispose of in a bin.



Baby and Wet Wipes, Cotton Buds & Swabs, Sanitary Items

Although the packaging may say that these items are biodegradable, they do not break down and so can gather in pipes and stop your toilet from flushing properly. This can lead to sewage back up and causes a great deal of damage to public infrastructure.

Putting them into a sealed bag and throwing away in a bin is the best way to dispose of baby and wet wipes, amongst other similar items.



Paper Towels including Kitchen Rolls

Paper towels including kitchen rolls are absorbent. They don't break down like toilet paper. Which means they clog pipes.

Please throw them away in the bin.



Eggshells and Bones

The shells form granular waste which leads to clogged drains and pipes. The bones have sharp edges which can also lead to blockages.

Please throw away in the bin.



Medications and Prescriptions

Don't flush your medications down the toilet because the chemicals do not pass through the public filtration system. Meaning the medicine could be transferred back into your community's tap water.

Dispose of your medication safely or ask your GP for further guidance.



Food Stickers and Plasters

The glue-y stuff on the back of stickers and plasters causes issues with plumbing systems and should not be flushed down the drain.



Anti-Freeze, Motor Oil and Transmission Fluids

These chemicals get into our waterways and are extremely damaging to the ecosystem.

Please transfer oil, transmission fluid and anti-freeze to an old bottle and dispose of properly and safely.

