



St. Vrain Sanitation District

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Drug Disposal Reminder



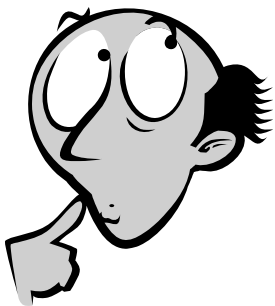
Across the country, drug take back programs are being operated to try to reduce the amount of medicines released to the environment. These programs benefit communities by providing safe disposal options for unwanted pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs) other than flushing to the sewer or placing in the trash. Personal care products are over-the counter medicines, vitamins and other items such as soaps or lotions with a pharmaceutical component.

Residents of the Dacono-Frederick-Firestone area are reminded that they can dispose of unwanted PPCPs at their local police station. This includes all prescription drugs as well as over the counter medicines or other personal care products. Unwanted items can be brought to the police station during regular business hours and given to a police officer for destruction. Identification must be presented and a receipt will be issued. The individual locations are:

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|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| • Dacono Police Department | 512 Cherry Street | 303-833-3095 |
| • Frederick Police Department | 333 5 th Street | 303-833-2468 |
| • Firestone Police Department | 151 Grant Avenue | 303-833-0811 |



For more detailed information, an internet search on "drug disposal" will produce a variety of resources, or you can call the St. Vrain Sanitation District's Pretreatment Coordinator at (303) 682-4692 with any questions.



**Did you know...
pumping basement sump pit
ground water into the sanitary
sewer is prohibited??**



Notice Concerning Flushable Wipes

Dear Sewer User:

There is a wide variety of cloth-like wipes available that are labeled as “flushable”. In recent years, these products have become a major source of problems for wastewater treatment systems. Cloth-like wipes have become very popular due to their toughness and durability when used for cleaning. It is these very qualities that make them such a problem when flushed to the sewer. Unlike toilet paper, facial tissues, and even regular paper towels that dissolve when mixed with water, cloth-like wipes stay in one piece, lodging in pipes and wrapping around the equipment used to treat wastewater.

Unfortunately, many wipe products are labeled as flushable, thus encouraging users to do so. There is an industry standard that was developed to test the flushability of wipes. It only evaluates if a product is physically capable of travelling through a flushing toilet, and pays no regard to what will happen afterwards. Flushed wipes can easily lodge in either the service connection piping or the main sewer line, causing a backup that floods the building or spills sewage into the environment. Flooding from blocked service connections, (the pipe from the building to the sewer main), is typically not the responsibility of the sewer service provider, and is often not covered by property insurance, forcing the owners to pay for cleanup and repairs out of their own pockets.

In sewer mains, wipes will collect on obstructions like offset pipe joints or intruding roots and combine with grease and other solids to block the flow in the pipe. This causes sewage to back up in the main and eventually to travel up individual service connections and out of building floor drains. At the treatment plant, many wipes are caught and removed by equipment that screens out incoming solids. Some pass further into the plant, wrapping tightly around anything the flow of wastewater passes over. Things like support rods, sensors, pumps and aerators can become covered in partially shredded wipes. This material often weaves and tangles together to completely obstruct equipment and must be cut away by hand to prevent equipment damage or failure. Not a pretty picture.

The costs generated by flushed wipes include the increased cleaning of sewer mains by jet truck flushing and increased efforts to keep the treatment plant clear of obstruction. Since all costs of operation are ultimately paid by the sewer users, any increases from excess cleaning must also be passed on. The other potential cost is of the repairs required after a sewer backup into a building from a blocked service line. These costs are usually paid directly by the building occupant.

To prevent wipe-related backups and expenses, there are two options. First, stop using cloth-like wipes and instead use true paper products like toilet paper, facial tissues or paper towels. These products will completely break down very quickly in water. Second, stop flushing cloth-like wipes to the sewer; instead put them in the trash. Either option will save you money through controlling wastewater treatment costs and give you peace of mind that your chance of having a sewer backup is much lower.

Remember: If you are using cloth-like wipes, please dispose of them in the trash or substitute a more degradable wipe in their place.



WIPES CLOG PIPES!