



Onkwe'tà:ke lakotokénhstha

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Suggested Media

Instructions:

Please run at your discretion.

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*As per the MCK
Communications Protocol,
all media requests must be
arranged through the Public
Relations / Communications
Unit*

Residents being reminded that wipes and other refuse cannot be flushed

(Kahnawake – 2 Tsothóhrha/December 2025)

The Public Works Unit would like to remind all residents and businesses that certain items must never be flushed into the sewer system. Materials that cause blockages and should not be flushed are:

Personal hygiene and care products

- Feminine products
- Cotton swabs and cotton balls
- Dental floss

Paper products

- Paper towels
- Facial tissues
- Napkins

Baby products

- Diapers
- Wipes (including those labeled “flushable”)

“Flushable” wipes

- These do **not** break down like toilet paper and can cause clogs

Hair

- Builds up over time and causes blockages

Fats, oils, and grease

- Solidify in pipes and lead to major blockages

Food and food waste

- Coffee grounds
- Pasta, rice, and other scraps

Cat litter

- Clumps and clogs pipes
- May contain harmful parasites

Medications and Pharmaceuticals

- Harm water systems and wildlife
- Dispose of safely following local guidelines

Hazardous materials

- Paints, chemicals, motor oil, pesticides
- Toxic and harmful to the environment

Other items

- Cigarette butts
- Condoms
- Bandages

These non-flushable products should be disposed of in the garbage, not in the toilet.

Flushing these items can cause serious damage to sewage and pumping equipment, as well as costly repairs to a home's plumbing system.

Recently, crews at the Turtle Bay pumping stations removed a large amount of inappropriate waste from the system. If such blockages lead to pump failure, emergency pumping may be required to prevent sewage backups into homes - a situation that can have devastating consequences.

All are asked to please do their part to protect the community's infrastructure by disposing of non-flushable items properly.