



Town of Cromwell Sewer Department
Public Service Announcement

So-Called "Flushable" Wipes & FOG Causing Sewer Pipe & Pump Station Problems

The Cromwell Water Pollution Control Authority (CWPCA) is asking its residents not to flush allegedly "flushable" wipes into the sanitary sewer system. Agencies across the country are increasingly dealing with problems caused by wipes and other products that do not break down quickly in the sewer system. The Cromwell Sewer Department has been experiencing problems with these types of fibrous materials being dumped or flushed into the sewer system and jamming the pumps at the Sewage Pump Stations causing them to trip out and shut down. This requires a minimum of two personnel and a crane truck to pull out the pump and remove the material, resulting in wasted maintenance time and money.

Some types of products not to dispose of into the sewers include baby wipes, cleaning wipes, feminine hygiene products, dental floss, towels, rubbish, cat litter, pharmaceuticals, and any type of fats, oil, or greases also known as "FOG".

Residential FOG is another main culprit requiring regular maintenance and annual cleaning of the Sewage Pump Stations and is also the cause of many lateral back-ups or overflows of sewage into the home. The CWPCA strongly recommends discarding any unused cooking oils, animal fat, and greases into the trash and not into the sewers.

The CWPCA appreciates all efforts our residents make to keep the sanitary sewer system free of obstructions. This helps reduce unnecessary inconvenience and keep maintenance costs to everyone at a minimum.