

HOW TO AVOID SEWER PROBLEMS

Sanitary sewer systems are designed to handle three types of waste products:

- Used water
- Human body waste
- Toilet paper

NOTE: IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY OF TAUNTON, SEWER USE ORDINANCE, SECTION 19.7- LATERAL ORDINANCE- “IN THE EVENT OF A PLUGGED-UP OR BACKED-UP SEWER LINE, ANY WORK REQUIRED BETWEEN THE PUBLIC SEWER LINE AND THE BUILDING SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OWNER OF THE BUILDING OR PROPERTY.” THE PUBLIC SEWER CONSISTS OF THE MAIN SEWER LINES LOCATED UNDER THE STREETS BETWEEN MANHOLES. THE LATERAL LINE WHICH CONNECTS THE BUILDING TO THE MAIN LINE IN THE STREET IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROPERTY OWNER

Follow these simple DOs and Don'ts to help prevent sewer backups and avoid expensive plumbing and cleanup bills

DO: Collect grease in a container and throw it in the garbage.

DO: Put food scraps in your compost bin or the garbage for disposal with solid waste.

DO: Place a wastebasket in the bathroom to dispose of items such as disposable diapers and personal hygiene products.

DO: Use a backflow prevention device (BPD) as needed. A backwater valve installed in lateral, usually in basement floor and prevents sewage from backing up into the building beyond this valve.

NOTE: IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY OF TAUNTON SEWER USE ORDINANCE< SECTION 19.7 INSTALLATION OF BACKFLOW PREVENTION. BACK WATER VALVES ARE PART OF THE PLUMBING CODE IN THE CITY OF TAUNTON AND NEEDS TO BE INSTALLED BY A PLUMBER AND INSPECTED BY THE PLUMBING INSPECTOR.

DON'T: Pour grease, fats and oils from cooking down the drain.

DON'T: Use the sewer to dispose of food scraps.

DON'T: Use the toilet as a wastebasket for garbage or chemicals. These items can kill "good" bacteria used for sewage treatment, cost much more to treat, and can enter the Bay.

DON'T: Plant trees with shallow, spreading root systems near your sewer lateral. Tree roots seek water sources, such as cracked sewer lines. Once the roots have penetrated the line through cracks, the roots can create a dense mat and trap materials.

