

## PROPER SEWER USAGE

The Weirton Sanitary Board operates and maintains the city's sewer collection and treatment systems. This includes preventive and emergency maintenance, line replacement, line extensions, connections, and inspections. Everything that is sent to the sewer will have influences on both the collection system and the treatment process. If the equipment gets clogged with garbage it will not work. Items that belong in the solid waste or garbage stream should never be placed in the sewer system.

### What you cannot flush or dump into sewers:

- \* gasoline (not in the garbage either!)
- \* oil or any other petroleum-containing waste - most can be recycled
- \* solvents - can be recycled
- \* anti-freeze - can be recycled
- \* unused medications
- \* hazardous or toxic chemicals such as pesticides, herbicides, acids, bases - follow label instructions for proper disposal
- \* paints - follow label instructions, allow to dry before placing in garbage
- \* concentrated soaps and detergents
- \* dirty water from washing cars
- \* sewage from septic tanks

### Tips for taking care of your sewer system:

- \* Do not put grease or cooking oil into your sewer system. Place leftover grease into a container and allow it to cool and solidify before disposing of it in the garbage. Place used cooking oil in a can or other suitable container and place it in the garbage. Fats, oils and grease will solidify in the sewer pipes and cause blockages which can back up into your home or business.
- \* Do not throw any non-organic materials, including paper towels, fabric or paper clean wipes, baby wipes, diapers, coffee grounds, tea bags, dental floss and sanitary napkins into the sink or toilet. Place them in your garbage where they belong. Be proactive and protect the environment by thinking before you toss - put the right things in the right waste stream.
- \* Keep tree roots away from your sewer pipes through routine maintenance cleaning schedules. Don't plant trees or bushes with invasive roots where the roots could reach your sewer line.

### Why Pay Attention to What Goes in the Sewer?

It's simple: Materials that won't be treated in the wastewater system or that clog the system cause us to spend more money and more energy. Keeping solid waste and other disallowed items out of the wastewater system in the first place means less spending for us, keeping costs as low as possible for you.

**Most important: If you have sewage backing up in your home, call us first before calling a plumber! We do not charge anything to check out the main sewer lines!**