

Putting the wrong stuff down your kitchen, bathroom, or utility sink can lead to costly home plumbing repairs and sewer backups. It also wreaks havoc with MSD's sewers and treatment plants.

So keep your money in your pocket and your sewer rates as low as possible by learning "What Not To Flush."



**Fats, oils, and grease:** Fats, oils, and grease from food can congeal in sewer pipes, leading to restricted or blocked flow and potentially sewer backups. Soap, water, and a little food residue is OK, but dispose of fats, oils and grease in the trash.



**Coffee grounds:** Coffee grounds do not break down in water and tend to clump together and mix with fats, oils, and grease. Over time, they can pack together in a drain and cause clogs. Dispose of coffee grounds in the trash or put them in a composting bin.



**Egg shells:** Egg shells do not break down in water, and the shells can stick to your drain and attach to other items. Dispose of egg shells in the trash or put them in a composting bin.



**Paint:** Even if you're just rinsing off a paint brush, resist the urge to put paint down your sink. Paint can stick to your drain, causing clogs. It also contains hazardous materials and requires proper disposal as a household hazardous waste.

