



Keep wipes out of pipes... Save \$\$\$

Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works

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(410) 222-8400
24-hour Emergency Service for Utilities

(410) 222-0600
Office of Emergency Management

(410) 222-2222
Constituent Services

(410) 222-8050
Police Department

(410) 222-8200
Fire Department

(410) 222-1144
Utilities Billing Information

Very few things in life are as unpleasant as a sewage backup in your home. To add insult to injury, more often than not, the cleanup and repairs are not covered by most homeowner insurance policies.

One way to avoid this nasty situation is to never flush anything down your toilet other than toilet paper itself. Baby wipes and other “disposable” or “flushable” consumer products will wreak havoc on you plumbing and your checkbook. The misleading labels do not tell the entire story. Anything other than toilet paper will not breakdown properly, causing buildup in pipes and eventually a basement full of wastewater.

On a larger scale, these products can make their way into the public sewer system and cause clogs at pump stations. When pump stations are clogged, they stop working. The results can be very costly and damaging to the environment. Department of Public Works crews are finding more and more mounds of disposable products clogging our pump stations. Clogs in the public sewer system could cause raw sewage to overflow into local waterways.



- Diapers**
- Disinfecting wipes**
- Baby wipes**
- Cotton swabs**
- Toilet cleaning pads**
- Mop refills**
- Paper towels**
- Moist toiettes**
- Feminine hygiene products**

So, if you are not sure what should or shouldn't be flushed, remember this easy reminder: if it's not toilet paper, and if you didn't eat it first, it should NOT go in the toilet. **WHEN IN DOUBT, DON'T FLUSH!**



Anne Arundel County Executive
John R. Leopold



Anne Arundel County Partners With EPA to Promote Water Leak Awareness

Because minor water leaks account for more than 1 trillion gallons of water wasted each year in U.S. homes, Anne Arundel County promoted “Fix a Leak Week,” March 15-21. Fix a Leak Week was sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) WaterSense program as an annual reminder to Americans to check household plumbing fixtures and irrigation systems for leaks.

To help consumers here in Anne Arundel County save water, DPW and WaterSense are promoting ways to identify and repair dripping faucets, running toilets and leaky showerheads. In most cases, fixture replacement parts pay for themselves quickly and can be installed by do-it-yourselfers, your favorite handy person, plumber or WaterSense irrigation partner.

Water Saving Tips

The following are a few water-saving tips from the Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works and the EPA:

- Reduce faucet leaks by checking faucet washers and gaskets for wear and, if necessary, replace the faucet with a WaterSense labeled model.
- Leaky toilets are most often the result of a worn toilet flapper. Replacing the rubber flapper is a quick fix that could save a home with a constantly running toilet up to 200 gallons of water per day.
- For a leaky garden hose, replace the nylon or rubber hose washer and ensure a tight connection to the spigot using pipe tape and a wrench.
- Landscape irrigation systems should be checked each spring before use to make sure they are not damaged by frost or freezing.

DPW welcomes North County Student Shadow



DPW Director Ron Bowen discusses water treatment with Nicole Jackson during a tour of the Crofton Meadows II Water Treatment Facility.

Nicole Jackson, a sophomore at North County High School, learned about the inner workings of the Department of Public Works through the County Executive John R. Leopold’s Model Government Program. Nicole job-shadowed DPW Director Ron Bowen to get first hand knowledge of DPW. Nicole toured the Millersville Landfill and received presentations from representatives of the Bureau of Highways, Waste Management, Technical Engineering and Water Utility Operations.

Each year, high school students learn about the legislative and executive branches of County government by participating in this program.