



TOWN OF PLYMOUTH

Department of Public Works
Sewer Division
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How To Avoid Sewer Problems

Sanitary sewers systems are designed to handle three types of things:

- Used Water
- Human Body Waste
- Toilet Paper

NOTE: IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TOWN OF PLYMOUTH SEWER DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS, ARTICLE III, SECTION 15

- A. The Sewer Division of the Department of Public Works is responsible for all maintenance and repairs on main line sewers.
- B. The owner of the property connected to the sewer system is responsible for all maintenance and repairs on their service connection from the building to the point where service connection meets the property line.
- C. Service connections may only be repaired by drain layers who are licensed by the Town of Plymouth to perform such a repair.

Follow these simple DO's and DON'TS to help prevent sewer backups and avoid expensive plumbing and cleanup bills.

DO: Collect grease from cooking in a container and throw into the garbage.

DO: Put food scraps in a compost bin or garbage for disposal with solid waste

DO: Place a sanitary wastebasket in the bathroom to dispose of items such as disposable diapers, personal hygiene products including all wipes.

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

DON'T: Pour Fats, Oil, and Grease from cooking down the drain.

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

DON'T: Use the toilet as a wastebasket for garbage or chemicals. These items can kill "good" bacteria used for sewage treatment. Chemical can also pass through the treatment process ending up in the watershed.

DON'T: Plant trees and bushes over sewer lines. Tree roots seek water sources such as cracks in sewer lines. Once roots have penetrated the line through cracks, the roots grow into a dense mat blocking sewer flow.