

We need everyone's help...

Toilets Are **Not** Trashcans!



The following items should **never** be flushed into the sewer system:

- Disinfecting wipes, Baby wipes.
- Q-tips.
- Toilet cleaning pads.
- Mop or "Swiffer" type refills.
- Paper towels.
- Moist towelettes.
- Any consumer item that is not toilet paper.

Many household cleaning products are labeled and marketed as disposable; many baby hygiene products are labeled both disposable and flushable. And while these products may be marketed as a convenience item in this way, the truth is that these household wipes and cleaning towelettes have the ability to clog and stop up not only the sewer line on your property, but also can cause blockage and service problems in the public sewer system and pump stations. Unlike toilet paper, these products don't break down once they are flushed. They can cause blockages in your private service lateral, especially older

pipelines that may have grease, roots, or other obstructions already existing.



A repair of the private service lateral can leave the homeowner with a nasty repair bill. On a larger scale when these products make their way into the public sewer system they collect together and cause clogs in the sewer main lines and get tangled in pump stations requiring repair or replacement of equipment.

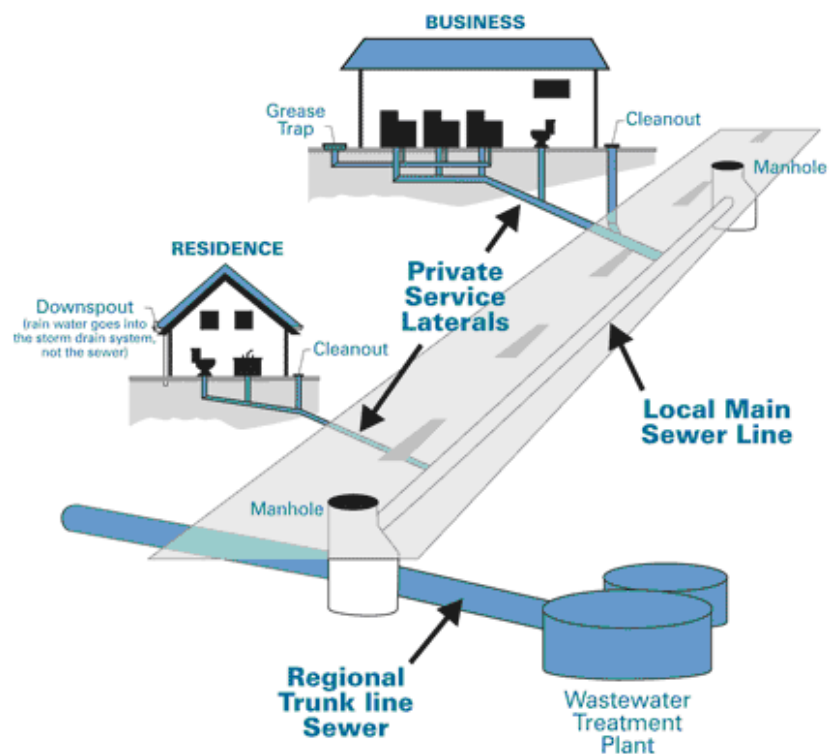


Diagram of a sanitary sewer system



City of Arroyo Grande
Public Works Department
(805) 473-5400