

Everything that goes down your sinks and toilets goes into the City's wastewater collection system. Things that clog your home drain can clog the City's wastewater system, too. This system is designed to handle human waste and toilet tissue which are **biodegradable** (or will break down biologically). Problems start when **non-biodegradable** materials enter the system. Two of the most common and troublesome non-biodegradable materials are **grease and hair**.



For More Information
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What's
Clogging
Your
Drains?



Brought to you by
The Portage Water
Reclamation —
Pretreatment
Division



Miles Of Pipes connect your home to the Portage Water Reclamation

Facility where the wastewater is cleaned and recycled back into the environment.

Depending on what you allow to go down your drains and

toilet, you can either help or hinder the efficiency of your household plumbing and the City's wastewater



Grease and hair remain unchanged from the time they go down the household drain or toilet until they reach the treatment facility. They don't break down and tend to clog the wastewater collection system. The cost of maintaining the

system is eventually reflected in your utility bill.

Grease may even block the drain line from

your house causing sewer backups into your home. Such blockages require expensive plumbing services to correct.

If you use recycling bins, you already know about sorting the garbage from what you recycle. **Think of water as a recyclable resource and your drains and toilets as recycle bins.** Recycle the appropriate materials and put the rest in the garbage. This promotes efficient wastewater recycling, helps control maintenance costs and protects our environment.



How You Can Help

Here are some things you can do to prevent clogs in your household plumbing and the City's wastewater

In The Bathroom....

- Use the wastebasket to dispose of hair, cotton swabs, plastics, cigarette butts, personal products and their applicators, and other trash.
- Regularly remove any hair that collects in your bathtub or shower drain and put it in the wastebasket.

In the kitchen....

- Wipe grease from pots, pans and dishes with a paper towel.
- Collect larger amounts of spent grease in a can and dispose of it with the garbage.