

SEWER SYSTEM DO'S AND DON'TS

The Truckee Sanitary District is the public agency responsible for wastewater collection in the Truckee area. By following the tips below, you can help keep the sewer system flowing smoothly, saving money and protecting the environment.

DO:

1. Do – Place liquid fats, oils, and grease into a jar or container and dispose in the trash. Wipe down greasy pots and pans with a paper towel before washing in the sink or dishwasher.
2. Do - Place a wastebasket in the bathroom to dispose of solid wastes. Disposable diapers and personal hygiene products do not belong in the sewer system.
3. Do – Use a strainer over the drain in your sink, tub, and shower. Then empty the collected material in to the garbage.
4. Do – Avoid the release of hair into shower, bathtub, or sink drains to prevent clogs in traps and drains.
5. Do – Locate your building's sewer cleanouts and backflow prevention device. If you don't have one, install one.
6. Do - Keep your cleanouts exposed so that your pipes can be inspected and maintained.
7. Do - Call TSD at (530) 587-3804 if you have questions about your sewer line or you suspect a sewer spill.
8. Do – Call 811 before you dig or do extensive landscaping so utilities can mark their underground facilities.
9. Do – Go to www.truckeesan.org for more information about your sewer system.

DON'T:

1. Don't - Wash Fats, Oils, or Grease down the drain. They harden and can block pipes.
2. Don't - Flush so-called "Flushable" wipes. They do not breakdown and can cause blockages in pipes and pump stations.
3. Don't - Flush kitty litter down the drain. It will settle in the pipes and cause blockages.
4. Don't - Dispose of medicines or drugs in the sewer system. The treatment plant is not designed to treat these chemicals and they can end up back in the water supply. Please crush and dispose of them in the garbage or turn them in at a pharmaceutical recycling program.
5. Don't - Pour paint, engine oil, pesticides or chemicals down the sink. Some hazardous materials can corrode the sewer, while others complicate the treatment process. These chemicals are a hazard to the environment and to maintenance crews working in the sewers.
6. Don't – Dig or do extensive landscaping without calling 811 or notifying local utilities.
7. Don't – Plant trees over sewer pipelines. Roots damage and clog pipes.
8. Don't – Connect roof, basement, or surface water drains to the sewer system. The extra water from these sources can overload the sewer collection and treatment system.