



What you Flush or Pour down your drain affects the Rivers, Lakes, and Water Ways in Ridgefield

Where does the water go after you flush the toilet or drain the sinks in your home?

It flows through Ridgefield's sanitary sewer system to a wastewater treatment facility. The wastewater from homes, along with wastewater from businesses, industries, and other facilities, is treated by a variety of processes to reduce or remove pollutants.

What happens to the treated water when it leaves the wastewater treatment plant?

It's released into the Norwalk River Basin where it's used again for any number of purposes, such as irrigating crops, sustaining aquatic life and eventually it makes its way to Long Island Sound.

- ✘ Before washing, scrape and dry wipe pots, pans and dishes with paper towels and dispose of materials in the trash.
- ✘ Pour FOG after it has cooled into a container, such as an empty glass jar or coffee can. Once the container is full, secure the lid and place it in the trash. For large volumes, contact your local agency for recycling options.
- ✘ FOG coats pipelines similar to the way fatty foods clog human arteries. The grease clings to the inside of the pipe, eventually causing complete blockage.
- ✘ Don't empty waste from a deep fryer down the drain.

If You Have a Sewer Back-up?

If you do have a sewer backup at any time . . . Please call the WPCA 24/7 Emergency #'s: (203) 438-8615 or (877) 908-3426.

Interesting Facts:

1. WPCA treats approximately 700,000 gallons of wastewater per day.
2. Septic system users also contribute approximately 250,000 gallons of septic waste per

WPCA

TOWN OF
RIDGEFIELD

Water Pollution Control Authority
Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street
Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877

Phone: 203-431-2734

Fax: 203-431-2737

Emergency 24/7: 203-438-8615

Email: dvanness@ridgefieldct.org

www.ridgefieldct.org

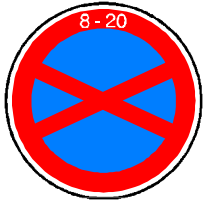
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL
AUTHORITY

Sewer and Lateral Maintenance Information



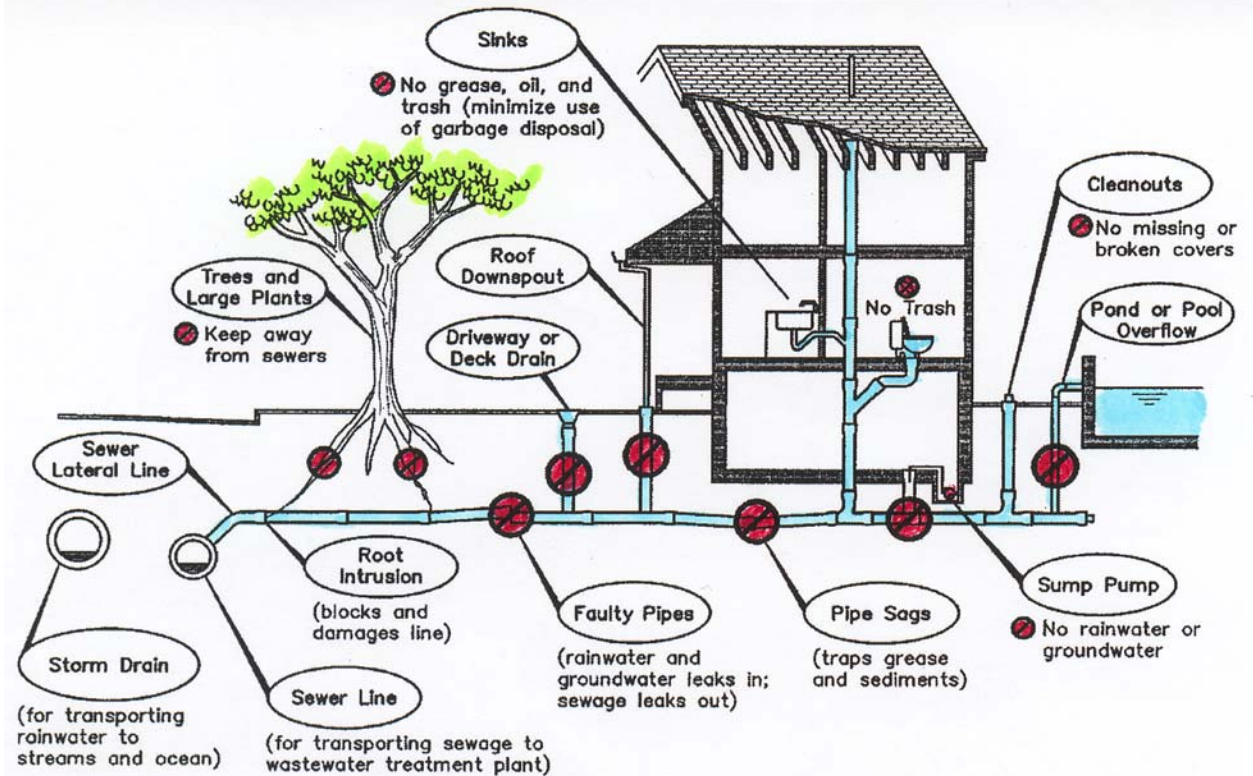
WPCA
Tel: 203-431-2734

TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD



Not Down My Drain!

- ✘ Fats, Oils and Grease
- ✘ Baby Wipes and Diapers
- ✘ Feminine Products
- ✘ Paints and Stains
- ✘ Motor Oil, Auto Fluids
- ✘ Household Cleaners
- ✘ Beauty Products
- ✘ Lawn Care Products
- ✘ Photographic Supplies
- ✘ Paper Towels/Napkins
- ✘ Meat & Poultry Bones
- ✘ Medicines, Needles
- ✘ Egg Shells, Fruit Pits
- ✘ Coffee Grounds



Help Prevent Sewage Spills!

Keep grease, trash, rainwater and roots out of our sewer system!!

The lateral (the connection from the house to the street) is the responsibility of the owner of the property and repairs can be very costly.

Common Causes of Backups

More often than not, the cause of a backup in your lateral is from items that the line is not meant to handle, such as kid's toys, underwear, towels, diapers, baby wipes, paper products (other than toilet paper), keys, etc. To avoid flushing these items, remember to close the toilet lid. What you flush down the toilet may not affect you, but it might cause problems for your neighbors!

Tree Roots

Don't plant trees with shallow, spreading root systems near your sewer lateral. Shrubs and trees, seeking moisture, will make their way into sewer lateral cracks. These roots can do a lot of damage.

They may start out small, getting into a small crack in the pipe; but as the tree or shrub continues to grow, so does the root. After time this causes your sewer lateral to break, which allows debris to hang up in the sewer lateral, thus causing a backup.

Grease Blockage Prevention

Preventing grease-related sewer blockages and overflows benefits your home, your pocketbook and the environment. Approximately 80 percent of grease-related sewer blockages and overflows occur in residential areas.

- ✘ Fat's, Oil's & Grease (FOG) should NEVER be poured down the sink. Sink drains and garbage disposals are not designed to properly handle these materials.
- ✘ Use sink strainers to catch food items, then empty the strainer into the trash.