

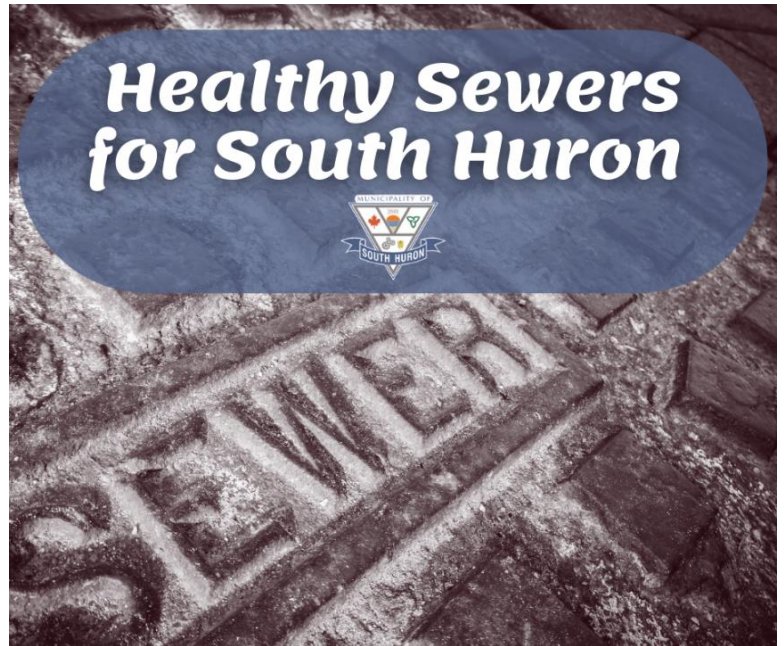


Sewer Campaign: ‘Healthy Sewers for South Huron’

South Huron’s Sewer Campaign ‘Healthy Sewers for South Huron’

‘Healthy Sewers for South Huron’ – an opportunity for the community to learn and ask questions about our wastewater system.

South Huron’s wastewater system plays an important role in our community – it collects all waste (what is flushed and put down the drain) from homes and businesses for treatment. Our team currently maintains 62 kilometres of sanitary sewers that carries wastewater from approximately 5,000 homes and business connected to our wastewater system.



A well-functioning system depends on the activities of those who are connected, beginning at the source of what gets flush or put down the drain.

We are committed to keeping our system as robust as possible to avoid costly repairs for homeowners and taxpayers and overall disruptions to the community. This is why we have created ‘Healthy Sewers for South Huron’ – an opportunity for the community to learn and ask questions about our wastewater system.



Sewer Campaign: 'Healthy Sewers for South Huron'

Your toilet and drain are not garbage cans!



TIP: Always keep a garbage close to your toilet or drain to easily dispose of these items.



Healthy Sewers for South Huron

Your toilet and drain is not a garbage can.

The only types of materials that can properly move through and be treated within our municipal wastewater system are pee, poo, vomit and toilet paper. Anything else that is flushed, such as fats, oils and grease from cooking or personal items such as dental floss, hair, feminine products, and wipes (even those that claim they are flushable) can create clogs in your home, municipal pipes in your neighbourhood, and in the wastewater system.

The following items are NOT flushable and must NOT be put down the drain:

- Adhesive bandages
- Cat litter
- Cigarette butts
- Cotton balls/swabs
- Deceased fish/pets
- Dental floss
- Diapers
- Disposable face masks/gloves
- Fabric items
- Feminine products
- Food waste
- Hair (human and pet)
- Hazardous waste (cleaners, paints)
- Medication
- Paper towels
- Tissues or napkins
- Wipes (even those that claim they are 'flushable')

TIP: Always keep a garbage close to your toilet or drain to easily dispose of these items.



Sewer Campaign: 'Healthy Sewers for South Huron'

False advertising can cost you!

Don't believe everything you read!

Have you fallen for the "flushable" wipes claim? This claim is FALSE and used for marketing purposes only.

We hope you didn't flush them down your toilet. These types of wipes will not break down like they claim they do and can be the cause of a major blockage.

'Flushable Wipe' ?
Think again!

⚠️
These are NOT
flushable!
(even if the label
says they are)

Healthy Sewers for South Huron

The advertisement features a dark blue header with the text "'Flushable Wipe' ? Think again!". To the right is a pack of teal wipes. Below the pack is a warning icon and text: "⚠️ These are NOT flushable! (even if the label says they are)". The main body consists of two side-by-side images. The left image shows a hand holding a roll of white toilet paper with a large green checkmark overlaid. The right image shows a hand dropping a white wipe into a toilet bowl, with a large red 'X' over the wipe and a blue arrow pointing from the wipe pack above. At the bottom is a dark blue footer with the Municipality of South Huron logo and the text "Healthy Sewers for South Huron".



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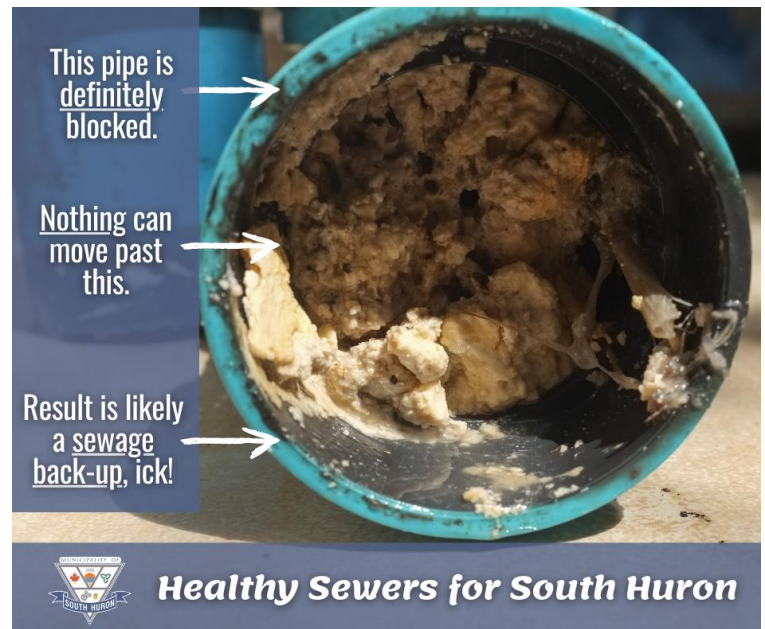
The BIG impact of unwanted items flushed or put down the drain

When unwanted items are flushed or put down the drain they may cause problems for homeowners, businesses and the entire municipality.

The lesson here is simple: leave trash out of your toilet or drain!

Here are some typical problems that may occur if unwanted items are flushed or put down the drain and build up occurs:

- A partial or complete blockage of the plumbing inside the building – this may cause a sewage back up in the building and will require repair
- A partial or complete blockage in the sewer lines on private property (which is located between the building and the municipal sewer pipe) – this would cause a sewage back up in the building and will require repair
- A partial or complete blockage in the municipal sanitary sewer – this would require sewer flushing efforts to clear the blockage
- Pump mechanisms at the sewage pumping stations may become clogged – this would require municipal staff to clear clogged materials from the pumps
- Some items may eventually be discharged into the sewage lagoon – this may cause harm to the environment





Sewer Campaign: ‘Healthy Sewers for South Huron’

Serve your drains only what they like!

Serving food for everyone to enjoy is a great idea! However, serving fats, oils, and grease (FOGs) into your drain is NOT!

FOGs build up over time and can cause significant blockages in the municipal sewer, which are costly to repair and can lead to emergency shutdowns of service.

MSICONCEPTION ALERT: Soap and hot water will not clear FOGS from your pipes.

How can you make sure your drains are served what they should be?

- Store it – store any large quantities of FOGs in safe containers for proper disposal
- Wipe it – wipe FOGs from cooking equipment using a paper towel before washing
- Toss it – throw out any remnants of solid food before washing
- Block it – use a trap to remove large amounts of used FOGs (and maintain it)

Healthy Sewers for South Huron

Make sure your drains are served only what they like:
They definitely DON'T like FOGs!

Oils

Fats

Grease



Sewer Campaign: ‘Healthy Sewers for South Huron’

Your wastewater eventually makes it way here

Putting unwanted items down the toilet or drain doesn't make them magically disappear. If these items make their way through the entire system without getting trapped, they will eventually end up in the sewage lagoons.

A sewage lagoon is a large pond-like basin where wastewater that is collected from the entire system is stored and treated. Aside from storing and treating wastewater, these pond-like basins also play an important role in providing habitat for many birds and other species, both common and rare.



DID YOU KNOW: the Exeter sewage lagoon is a popular hotspot for bird watching! On a typical day, bird watchers can find many different species (including birds of prey) using the lagoon ponds and surrounding ecosystem. A permit is required to visit the pond property. Contact us to learn more.



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Post: SL-Rat to the rescue!

The Municipality uses many different tools and preventative maintenance schedules to ensure our entire wastewater system is as robust as possible. One of the most interesting tool used is the SL-RAT!

Not to be confused with the well-known small rodent, the SL-RAT is an award-winning tool that uses acoustic technology to provide the Municipality with real-time blockage assessments. Once the assessment is completed, staff can prioritize flushing and further investigations for areas that may have significant blockages. This helps to address problems that can't be seen, before they become a major repair or cause a significant blockage.

Learn more about how the SL-RAT works and how it is used by municipal staff to detect a blockage:
<https://youtu.be/-xpVZQP4hEo>



Sewer Campaign: 'Healthy Sewers for South Huron'

Don't wait to address your sewage issues!

Don't wait for a major blockage to happen – this may cause sewage to back up in your home or business. If a sewage back-up happened today, think about the belongings that would be irreplaceable and the costly bills.

- Hire a plumber to inspect the pipes inside your home and between your house and municipal sewers to identify and remove any blockages
- Find alternatives to flushing or putting unwanted items down the drain. Put a garbage can near your toilet or drain for convenience and store cooled fats, oils and greases to be placed in the garbage instead of putting them down the drain.
- Find out where your lines are located between your house and municipal sewers. Keep these areas clear of shrubs and trees to avoid root damage and make sure you call before you dig to avoid unplanned damage.
- Consider warranty coverage for the pipes between your house and municipal sewers, in the event a major problem arises



**Healthy Sewers
for YOU!**

- ✓ **Hire a professional**
- ✓ **Avoid flushing or putting unwanted items down the drain**
- ✓ **Know your assets**
- ✓ **Consider additional coverage**

 **Healthy Sewers for South Huron**

The image shows a close-up of a plumber's tool belt with various tools like a wrench, pliers, and a pipe wrench. To the right of the tool belt is a list of four key messages, each preceded by a green checkmark. At the bottom of the graphic is the South Huron logo and the text "Healthy Sewers for South Huron".