



# How the sanitary sewer system works

Everything flushed down your toilet or household sink goes to our sanitary sewer system.

The sanitary sewer system is a series of underground pipes that transport sewage to the wastewater treatment facility. There, the sewage is treated to meet or exceed the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks regulations and then released into Georgian Bay.

## Help minimize impacts on the environment

Sometimes waste items can pass through the sewage treatment facility and end up in Georgian Bay. It's extremely important to keep medicines and household wastes out of the toilet and dispose of them properly.

## What should I do?

### Flush the right stuff

Make sure you only flush toilet paper down your toilet. Toilet paper breaks down rapidly to protect both consumers pipes and the municipal wastewater sewage system. Our sewage system is not designed to handle any other type of paper product. Even items that claim to be flushable should be disposed of in another manner.



### Help prevent back-ups and overflows

Flushing the wrong things down your toilet can block sewer pipes. This may create sewer backups and lead to basement flooding. It can also cause sewage overflows into Georgian Bay. Wipes that are not designed to flush down your toilet are typically larger in surface area, thicker, denser and much stronger than toilet paper.

### Disposing of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) is any material that is corrosive, flammable, ignitable or reactive – and includes household items such as bleach, cleaners, nail polish and paint. Items considered HHW should never be put down the sink or flushed down the toilet. These or similar items should be taken to The North Simcoe Transfer Station located at 1700 Golf Link Rd for proper disposal.