

# ✓ Do



**Do** place liquid fats, oils and grease into a jar or container and later remove it into your compost bag. This will reduce grease build-up in pipes.



**Do** scrape grease and food residue from dishes and pans into your compost bag before placing into your dishwasher or sink. Wipe down greasy pots and pans with a paper towel and place into your compost bag.



**Do** use a strainer over the drain in your sink, tub and shower to prevent the release of hair that can build-up and plug sewer lines. Then empty the material into your garbage bag.



**Do** discard food scraps, tea leaves, coffee grounds and eggshells into your compost bag.



**Do** place a wastebasket in the bathroom to dispose of solid wastes. Disposable diapers, condoms and personal hygiene products do not belong in the sewer system.



**Do** locate your backflow prevention device. If you don't have one, install one and have it inspected by a licensed professional annually.



**Do** use the manufacturers recommended amount of laundry and dish detergent. They hold fats, oil and grease in suspension making wastewater treatment more difficult and costly. Since most people use too much detergent, this action will reduce phosphates released to the environment that can lead to algae blooms.



**Do** empty washing machine lint into your garbage bag.



**Do** clean toilet vents annually to prevent blockages that can release sewer line gases into your home.



**Do** unclog drains naturally by pouring a ¼ cup of baking soda down the drain followed by a ½ cup of vinegar. Follow a few minutes later with boiling water.

# ✗ Don't



**Do Not** pour fats, oil and grease from cooking down the drain. They harden and can block pipes.



**Do Not** pour sour milk down the sink. One litre of full cream milk has enough fat in it to cover an Olympic-sized swimming pool.



**Do Not** flush a commercial grease interceptor with hot water to clear or clean the interceptor. Always have the grease interceptor pumped out by licensed professionals and disposed of properly.



**Do Not** discard food scraps, tea leaves, coffee grounds and eggshells down the sink.



**Do Not** flush so-called "Flushable" wipes, baby wipes, cleaning wipes or wipes made of non-biodegradable material. They do not break down and can block the pipe and damage pumping stations.



**Do Not** flush disposable diapers, and personal hygiene products (including the plastic film), razor blades, dental floss, tampons, bandages, syringes and kitty litter.



**Do Not** use sink garburators. Food debris can stick to fats, oil and grease that can block the pipe.



**Do Not** flush medications or needles down the drain. They cannot be treated and will end up harming aquatic life. Please return unused medications and/or needles to your local pharmacy for proper disposal.



**Do Not** pour paint, engine oil, pesticides or chemicals down the drain. Some hazardous materials corrode the pipe causing holes while others cannot be treated and can pose a health threat to maintenance workers. Please return hazardous goods back to the store you bought them from or to the Southeast Eco 360 facility on Bill Slater Drive.



**Do Not** plant trees near your sewer lateral or sewer pipes. Tree roots will penetrate sewer pipes through any size crack and block the pipe.



**Do Not** connect roof, basement or surface drains to the sewer system. The extra water could overload the sewer system and cause water to back up in your basement if you do not have a backflow preventer.