

Wastewater News



NOVEMBER 2013

Save Our Sewers

The wastewater you flush or pour down your drain into the sewer system is carried through an extensive underground network of pipes to one of Pima County's water reclamation facilities. At these facilities, pollutants in the wastewater are removed.

You can do your part to prevent damage to the community's sanitary sewers and water reclamation facilities by keeping potentially harmful substances out of the drain.

Day-After-Thanksgiving Grease Collection and Recycling Event

Please join us for this year's Day-After-Thanksgiving Collection Event.

The Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (RWRD) and our community partners (EDG Fuels, Greycle, Pima Association of Governments, and the Town of Sahuarita) will host the ninth annual Grease Collection and Recycling event on the Friday after Thanksgiving.

This event is held each year to remind everyone to properly dispose of cooking grease. Ordinary cooking grease and oils can clog sewer pipes and act as a magnet for grit and other debris. Eventually, the buildup of grease can clog sewer lines and result in sanitary sewer overflows (SSO). An SSO is the backup of raw sewage into the street, the environment, or into homes and other buildings.

To avoid a grease-related SSO, don't pour grease down your drain. After cooking, allow grease and oils to cool and then pour them into a can or jar. Bring your used cooking oil to the annual Grease Collection and Recycling event. The grease collected at this annual event is converted into biodiesel, a cleaner burning fuel.

Collection Event Hours and Locations

Date: Friday, November 29

Time: 9 am to 1 pm

Locations:

East – O'Reilly Chevrolet

6160 E. Broadway Blvd.
Broadway, one block west of Wilnot Rd.

Midtown – City Council Ward 3 Office

1510 E. Grant Road
Between Vine and Cherry Avenue

Northwest – Pima Vocational High School

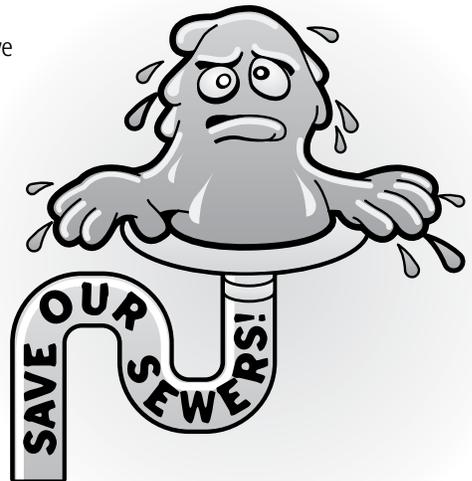
5025 W. Ina Road
1/4 mile west of I-10

South – City of Tucson Water Plant #2

1102 W. Irvington Road
I-19, west on Irvington Road

Sahuarita – Town of Sahuarita

375 W. Sahuarita Center Way
Town Hall Parking Lot



Never pour grease down your drain!



For more information, please contact us at 724-6500 or visit our website at <http://www.pima.gov/government/WastewaterReclamation/grease>.

If you receive this newsletter after the event date, you may drop off your used cooking oil or grease at any of the year-round locations listed below:

EDG Fuels

8939 S. Eisenhower Road
(520) 790-3341
(Monday-Friday) 7 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Mary's Market

1555 S. Tenth Avenue
(520) 884-8720
(Monday-Friday) 6 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Originate Natural Building Materials

526 N. Ninth Avenue
(520) 792-4207
(Tuesday – Friday) 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.
(Saturday) 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Disposable Wipes Can Clog Pipes

Many of us are aware that pouring grease down drains can clog sewer lines but, did you know that moist towelettes - which often are advertised as flushable and biodegradable - can also harm the sanitary sewer system?

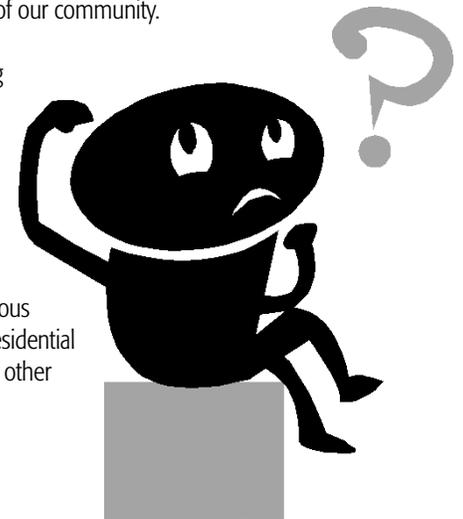
Disposable wipes and moist towelettes allow for the convenient cleanup of sticky messes, are handy during diaper changes, and assist in sanitizing germy surfaces. However, many disposable wipe packages carry information that claims these wipes are flushable and biodegradable.

Unfortunately, disposable wipes are not in the sewer system long enough to biodegrade. They do, however, frequently cause clogs in sewer lines and cause equipment failures in lift stations where mechanical pumps facilitate the conveyance of sewage in many areas of our community.

The Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) asks that you refrain from flushing disposable wipes. Instead please discard these wipes in the trash. The proper disposal of these convenient products will help keep our sewer system flowing properly.

What Else Should Not Go Down the Drain?

In addition to fats, grease, and disposable wipes, there are other things that should not be flushed into the sewer system. Antifreeze, automotive fluids, pesticides, solvents, and other similar substances should never be poured down the drain. Use less toxic alternatives whenever possible and dispose of any household hazardous materials through the Pima County/City of Tucson Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Program. Residential toxic wastes are collected at the HHW Center at 2440 West Sweetwater Drive. For information about hours and other collection sites, call 520-888-6947 or visit the HHW website at www.tucsonaz.gov/hhw



PIMA COUNTY

WASTEWATER RECLAMATION

Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department Contact Information

General Information (<i>during regular business hours</i>).....	520-724-6500
Roach Control Hotline (<i>Automated line, please provide requested information</i>)	520-724-3401
Billing Section.....	520-724-6609
Sewer Emergencies	520-724-3400
To Report Odors.....	520-724-3400
Sewer Outreach Subsidy (<i>Low-income bill assistance</i>)	520-243-6794
Sewer Connection Information	520-724-6602
To Report Vandalism	911

You can also access this information and more from our website, <http://www.pima.gov/wwm/about/contacts.htm>

**PIMA COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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- Ally Miller, District 1**
- Sharon Bronson, District 3**
- Raymond J. Carroll, District 4**
- Richard Elías, District 5**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
C.H. Huckelberry**