Some Things Just Don't Belong in the Toilet.....

Toilets are only meant for one activity, and you know what we're talking about! When the wrong thing is flushed, results can include costly backups on your own property or problems at the City's wastewater treatment plant. That's why it is so important to treat toilets properly and flush only your personal contributions to the City's wastewater treatment plant.

Don't rush to flush any items like:

Baby wipes and diapers	Plastic items of any description
Rags and towels	Aquarium gravel or kitty litter
Cotton swabs	Rubber items such as latex gloves
Syringes	Cigarette butts
Candy and other food wrappers	Sanitary napkins
Clothing labels	Hair
Cleaning sponges	Underwear
Toys	Disposable toilet brushes

Sewer Overflows Are a Mess: *Disposable* Does Not Mean *Flushable*!

It will take a lot more than the paper towels that caused this mess to clean it up. Flushing paper towels and other garbage down the toilet wastes water and can create sewer backups and overflows. This can also cause time-consuming backups in the public sewer pipes and at the City's wastewater treatment plant, and related costs can be passed on to residents. Even if its label reads "flushable", you are still safer and more environmentally correct to place the item in a trashcan. And because homeowners are responsible for their property's sewer pipes, improper flushing can cost you money. **You plug it, you pay for it!**

And There's More…

Whatever ends up in your toilet can potentially impact the water environment, so it's really important to keep household wastes out of toilets and drains and dispose of them properly. According to City Code 7-2-4 General Discharge Prohibitions, the following is a brief list of substances that are prohibited from entering the City sewer:

- Flammable, noxious, and volatile liquids
- Fats, oils, grease, and lubricants
- Animal parts, bones, tissue, hair, hides, and feathers
- Sand, ashes, and dust
- Wood, paper, and plastics
- High or low pH wastes
- Radioactive waste
- Unpolluted wastes including stormwater, roof runoff, foundation drain water

For more information on City Code, visit http://www.cityofmoorhead.com/city_hall/code.asp

Courtesy of the Water Environment Federation