



COSTA MESA SANITARY DISTRICT

November 12, 2009

PLEASE, NO MORE WIPES IN THE SEWER SYSTEM

TO: RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES

The Costa Mesa Sanitary District is the sewer service provider for all of Costa Mesa plus portions of Newport Beach and unincorporated Orange County.

The residents and business persons inside the District have a tendency to flush wipes down the commode. These wipes are very sturdy and cause major problems in the public sewer system, specifically, they become wound around pump impellers and stop the pumps from working. The incidence of wipes in the area is severe and the Sanitary District is requesting **NO MORE WIPES IN THE SEWER SYSTEM.** Instead, please throw the wipes in the trash after placing inside a baggie if necessary. Please understand that certain products in the store are labeled “flushable.” These products may not stop your sewer lateral from working, but they stop the public sewer from working properly. The increased maintenance needed to prevent problems from wipes and other “flushable” products is very expensive. A breakdown of pumps may lead to sewer backups inside residences. Whether or not a product is labeled “flushable,” please only flush it down the system if it is “dispersible.” Toilet paper and tissue are very thin and come apart in the system so they are considered “dispersible.” Only dispersible products should be flushed down the system.

Rule of Thumb:

PROTECT YOUR PUBLIC SEWER BY FLUSHING ONLY TOILET PAPER AND TISSUE.

Thank you in advance.

Please call the District at (949) 631-1731 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robin B. Hamers
District Engineer