

PRESS RELEASE:

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City of Wyoming

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News alert: Flushing baby wipes, disinfecting wipes, disposable mop refills, toss-in toilet bowl wands, towelettes, and even paper towels are causing major problems in the City's sewer system.

City work crews have been called out to clear 40-60 pounds of paper product out of the sewer lift station in the neighborhood of 30th Street and Boone Ave every few weeks for the past 6 months.

The Utilities Department has launched a public education campaign to let the public know about problems in Wyoming's sewer system from flushing baby wipes and personal care wipes. Utility staff distributed door-hanger notices last week in the neighborhood where they were able to trace the largest volume of accumulated wipes in the sewers.

Many of these products are labeled as disposable, but they can clog the sewer system, causing costly clean-up. They don't dissolve or break down after being flushed. The potential environmental consequence could be raw sewage overflowing into homes or a local stream.

Wyoming is not alone; this is a common problem in many cities as these products have become more widely used. Click here to see a short video by Consumers Reports, demonstrating the difference between flushing toilet paper and personal care wipes.

<http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/video-hub/home--garden/bed--bath/flushable-wipes/16935265001/22783507001/>

Please help protect public health, the environment, and water quality by putting used cleaning wipes, pads, swabs, and anything else besides human waste and toilet paper ***in the trash and not in the toilet!***