

Water Pollution Control Utility

WE ARE ALWAYS WORKING SO THE WATER
CYCLE NEVER STOPS

We manage and maintain over 150 miles of sewer lines that carry wastewater away from homes and businesses in Morris Township. This wastewater is then treated at two treatment plants before being safely returned to the environment.

Each year, numerous drains and sewers become blocked, leading to flooding that can impact you, your neighbors, and local waterways. To address this, we invest thousands of dollars annually in tackling waste-related issues. However, around 80% of these blockages are preventable, as they are caused by improper items being flushed down toilets or fats, oils, and grease being poured down sinks.

The wastewater drain from your home to the public sewer is typically only about four inches wide—roughly the size of a DVD. It is designed to carry only used water from sinks, showers, and baths, along with pee, poo, and toilet paper. Flushing or pouring anything else down the drain can lead to serious blockages.

The best way to prevent sewer backups and flooding is by working together to stop blockages before they happen. Here are some simple steps you can take to protect your home, your community, and the local environment.



In the Bathroom

It's easy; just follow our **Three P's** rule and only flush **Pee**, **Poo** and toilet **Paper**. Everything else should go in the trash, not down your toilet. Make it easy to save your drains. Keep a trash can in the bathroom for you to quickly, safely and hygienically dispose of all the 'never flush' personal items.

Your bathroom checklist of 'Never Flush' items:

- All wipes (baby, personal cleansing, toilet, household cleaning) – even if the package says “flushable”.
- Sanitary items (sanitary pads, tampons, liners, all applicators and backing strips).
- Cotton balls, cotton swabs, dental floss, incontinence pads, disposable diapers, wipes.
- Condoms, colostomy bags, used bandages, contact lenses.

You should also safely dispose of:

Syringe: There are several ways to dispose of your syringe medical waste. You may participate in a hospital syringe program as listed below or you may contact a mail away vendor. These are the only proper ways to dispose of syringes. Safe Syringe Disposal Programs in Morris County:

St. Clare's Hospital (Dover and Denville Campuses): Just drop off syringes at the front desk, but they must be in a sealed, hardened container.

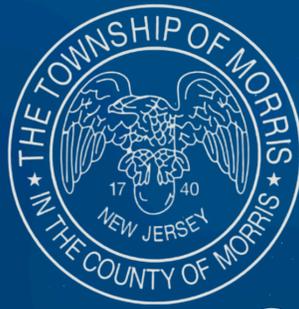
Morristown Medical Center: 973-971-4177 - Containers for syringes can be picked up or dropped off at the outpatient desk located on the right after going into the main entrance. Hours are M-F, 7:00am-7:00pm and Saturdays 7:00am-3:00pm. Syringes must be empty and syringe containers cannot be more than 3/4s full.

Chilton Memorial Hospital / Access Center (Pompton Plains): People may pick up empty syringe containers and drop off full ones at the Access Center. All syringes must be in containers. Hours: M-F, 6:00am - 8:00pm and Saturdays 7:00am-3:00pm. Note: in addition, accepting sharps and/or syringes for disposal, these safe syringe disposal programs will also accept epi-pens for disposal if they are empty and packaged in hardened containers like sharps and syringes.

Other options for safe syringe disposal by mail. Contact vendors listed below:

MedPro Disposal- For household sharps disposal options visit MedPro mail, <https://www.medprodisposal.com> or call 886-641-6131.

Waste Management, a waste hauling company has a “Sharps Disposal by Mail” program. Participants are provided with an approved disposal container and mail full containers for disposal using US Postal Service. Interested parties can call Waste Management for prices & details at 877-WASTE-MD.

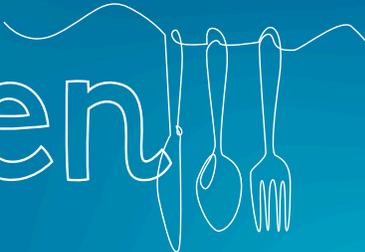


In the Bathroom Continued...

You should also safely dispose of Unused or unwanted medicines: There are several programs and locations to take advantage of. Including the Morris Township Police Department's "Medication Return Box" located at the Police Department, 49 Woodland Avenue, Morristown NJ, 07960.

If you cannot dispose of unwanted medicines using disposal programs, you may place only medicines and/or drugs in the trash. Note: this is not the preferred method. If disposing of medicines in the trash, destroy (crush/pulverize) the medicine rendering it undesirable, tightly wrap and place in the trash. [Click here](https://www.morristwp.com/911/Home-Medical-Waste) to read NJDEP describing this technique of disposing old medicines in the trash. <https://www.morristwp.com/911/Home-Medical-Waste>

In the kitchen



Fat, oil and grease in liquid form may not appear to be harmful as they don't get stuck in the drain, but as they cool they congeal, harden, and stick to the inside of drains and sewers. This builds up over time, which can cause blocked pipes and flooding. Pouring hot water down your drain will not help to dissolve any fat, oil or grease. All fats are equal. Whether it is saturated fat (like lard), mono-unsaturated fat (like olive oil), or vegetable oil, they all congeal and harden.

Your kitchen checklist:

- Fat, oil and grease – leave to cool and then scrape into a sealable container and put it in the trash.
- Give plates, pots, utensils and containers a quick scrape or wipe with a paper towel before washing, and use a sink strainer in the drain, to catch any bits of leftover food which could go down the sink.
- Believe it or not, soup, broths, sauces and, milk products all contain fat, which can also congeal and harden in your drains; leave these to cool/harden, then scrape into a container and put in the trash.
- Peelings - put any waste food and peelings into your household trash