

Welcome!

Welcome to the first edition of our quarterly email newsletter, where we'll share ideas on keeping your sewer pipes and local sewer system working properly. We know it's not a glamorous subject, but it's certainly an important one—because what you don't know about your sewer lines can hurt you, harm the environment, and potentially cost you thousands of dollars. Sewer Smart Living is made possible through a joint effort of the cities of Auburn, Lincoln and Roseville; Placer County; and South Placer Municipal Utility District. To learn more, visit www.livesewersmart.com.

The "Flushable" Myth

In an era of products that tout the convenience of flushability as a selling factor, it's important to keep in mind that sewer systems are designed to carry just two things: human waste and toilet paper. While it's true that some items advertised as flushable will eventually biodegrade, that won't happen on the way to the wastewater treatment plant. And if your home's sewer pipes are even a little bit clogged by FOG or tree roots, those products may get caught and speed up the clogging process, resulting in an expensive sewer backup.



What's flushable?

- Toilet paper
- Human waste

What's NOT flushable?

- Any forms of diapers, including "flushable" diapers and liners
- Vitamins, medicines or other pharmaceuticals
- Sanitary pads, tampons and condoms
- Facial tissues, napkins, paper towels and papers
- Baby wipes and other wipes or towelettes
- Cloth, plastic or food items of any type
- Dental floss
- Cat litter and pet waste bags
- Toilet bowl scrub pads and brush heads
- Hair

Just because something's advertised as flushable doesn't make it so!



Congratulations to Bob Goin of Roseville, winner of a \$100 gift card to Whole Foods. Pictured (L to R) is Jill Miller (Whole Foods), Bob Goin and Wastewater Utility Manager Ken Glotzbach. To enter to win in our next contest, visit www.livesewersmart.com.

October Events

Medication Take Back Day **FREE**

October 29, 2011, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Multiple locations

See [website](#) for more details.

Quick Facts About Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG)

▶ FOG buildup in pipes is the most common cause of sewer backups in homes.

▶ Cleanup costs and repairs for home sewer backups average more than \$4,000.

▶ Most sewer backups aren't covered by homeowner's insurance. You may need a special rider added to your policy, which costs about \$50 per year.

▶ FOG you send down the drain can clog main sewer pipes and create large sewer spills. Cleanup costs drive up utility rates.

▶ Running hot water doesn't fix it, it may melt the FOG close to the drain, but when it hits cold pipes further from the drain, it solidifies again.

