

THE WORD ON WIPES

"DISPOSABLE" does not mean "FLUSHABLE"

Disposable moist wipes including baby wipes, personal wipes, makeup removing wipes and cleaning wipes are sometimes described by the maker as being flushable. In fact, unlike toilet paper, wipes do not disintegrate when they are flushed down the toilet. Instead, they can accumulate in your plumbing or in the sewer system, causing clogs, damaging equipment and eventually causing sewer backups and overflows.

Personal wipes may seem like a dream come true for consumers, but plumbers and sewer system personnel say these wipes are one of the most common causes of clogged toilets and sewer lines.

To protect your plumbing and reduce the risk of clogging the public sewer system:



DO FLUSH:

- Human waste
- Toilet paper
- Pet waste
(but not cat litter)



DO NOT FLUSH:

- Disposable wipes
- Paper towels
- Disposable toilet cleaning sponges
- Feminine products
- Cotton balls/cotton tipped swabs
- Dental floss
- Disposable diapers



**Disposable wipes are NOT flushable.
They should be thrown into the trash — never flushed.**



CITY OF FORT WAYNE

Tom Henry
Mayor



PREPARING FOR SUMMER STORMS

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Summer storms with heavy rains and winds are typical if you live in the Midwest. Sometimes heavy rains can totally overwhelm Fort Wayne's storm sewer system causing standing water and localized flooding. Still, there are things you and your neighbors can do to protect your properties and help ensure that emergency and other vehicles have access to your neighborhood:

- 1. Be a good neighbor** and remove leaves and other material from street-side gutters and storm sewer inlets near your home. This helps in several ways:
 - Helps prevent street flooding during rain storms
 - Keeps your neighborhood looking tidy and well maintained
- 2. Manage yard waste properly** by keeping it out of the street and storm drain.
- 3. Never pour** chemicals, grease, oil, paint or any other fluids down storm drains.

City streets are regularly swept by the City's Street Department and City Utilities has a program to clean storm sewer drains regularly. In the meantime your efforts are appreciated and can help protect your property.

To find more about stormwater management and what you can do to help, please visit cityoffortwayne.org/utilities/ways-you-can-help.

Summer Lawn Care Tips

from Fort Wayne City Utilities

How you care for your lawn can have a big impact on your pocketbook and our environment. While planting the petunias and trimming the topiary, keep these tips in mind:

Test Your Soil before Applying Chemicals.

This will help determine the kind of fertilizer you may want to use and how much you'll need so you won't over buy or over apply.

Minimize Use of Fertilizer that Contains Phosphorus.

Phosphorus is a nutrient that has been linked with the growth of blue-green algae in Lake Erie and other water bodies. Look for fertilizer that does not contain phosphorus.

Replant Bare Spots. Those bare spots in your yard can be as hard as concrete. Growing grass in those areas may help more rain water soak into the lawn.

Clean Up Your Mess! If grass clippings, dirt or chemicals blow into the street as you work in your yard, sweep or blow them back onto your property. Clippings and chemicals should NEVER be washed or blown into a storm drain because of the water pollution they can cause. Grass clippings should not be left in the street or gutter because they can clog storm sewer inlets and cause street flooding.



Fort Wayne City Utilities — Working With You to Protect the Environment and Your Home



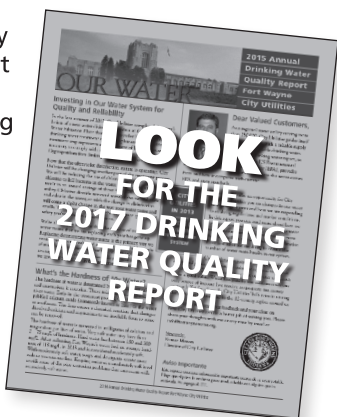
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COMING SOON TO YOUR MAILBOX

FORT WAYNE'S ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Each year Fort Wayne City Utilities publishes a report with information about the quality of the drinking water we produce and distribute. The report covers the previous calendar year and will be delivered to you prior to July 1st. If you do not receive a report, you will be able to find the newest document after July 1st by going to the City Utilities website at www.cityoffortwayne.org/utilities and selecting the Drinking Water tab.



The report, which is required annually by the US Environmental Protection Agency, includes information about the source of your drinking water and how it is treated and tested to ensure quality and safety. We are also happy to report on some of the activities City Utilities has done in the past year to make sure that you have an abundant supply of water to use for drinking, cooking, bathing and all of the other activities of daily life.

City Utilities also provides regular reports on the taste and odor of the drinking water we produce. For more information please visit: drinkingwater.cityoffortwayne.org

CITY UTILITIES:
Committed to safe water
and to you!

