



Water Wise

The Quarterly Newsletter of Charleston Water System

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What Not to Flush

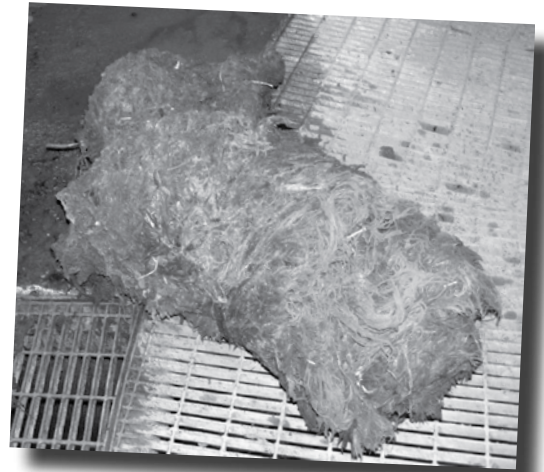
True or false: It's okay to flush anything small enough to go down the toilet. False!

The commode was designed for one purpose—to remove human waste, not trash, from homes and businesses. When you use the toilet to dispose of things that belong in the trash can, you not only waste water, but you risk clogging your home's sewer pipes or sewer lines in the street. In severe cases, clogs can cause sewer back-ups in your home or overflows in the street.

It's important to remember that whatever goes down the toilet can potentially impact the water environment, so if in doubt, trash it!

Don't flush these!

- Paper towels
- Rags & disposable dust towels
- Baby wipes & diapers
- Any plastic items
- Disposable toilet brushes
- Latex gloves
- Sanitary napkins
- Cigarette butts
- Oil and grease
- Aquarium gravel & cat litter



Here's what happens to hair, string, plastics, and other trash that gets flushed—it forms a super clog like this one removed from a sewer pump station in West Ashley.

Project Profile:

New 1.5 million-gallon storage tank



This \$5.7-million, 1.5 million-gallon elevated storage tank is one of several construction projects underway at the Hanahan Water Treatment Plant. The tank will store water for cleaning the filter basins. It will also keep the water flowing in the event of an unexpected power interruption to our pumps by maintaining water pressure while we switch to back-up power.

Water TRIVIA!

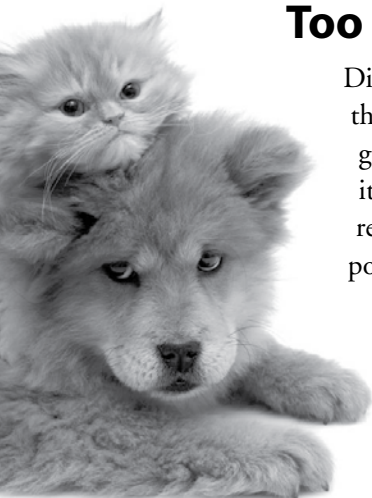
Test your water knowledge! Send us the correct answer to the question below by October 12, 2009 to be entered in a prize drawing!*

Question:

Can you name the river that feeds Charleston's primary water supply?

Send your answer via e-mail or mail:
info@charlestoncpw.com
Charleston Water System
Attn: Water Wise Trivia Contest
PO Box B
Charleston, SC 29402

*Charleston Water System employees and their family members not eligible to enter.



Too Cute to Pollute?

Did you know that pet waste is a serious threat to water quality? When left on the ground, sprinklers and rainwater wash it into storm drains, streams, and other receiving waters. The nutrients in pet poop feed algae growth and use oxygen in the water, which can choke out plants and wildlife.

Pet waste also carries diseases that can make water unsafe for swimming, fishing and drinking. So, help protect our waterways by picking up after your pet!

Beach Sweep/River Sweep 2009

Our beaches and waterways are cleaner thanks to the efforts of volunteers participating in the annual Beach Sweep/River Sweep clean-up.

Organized by S.C. Sea Grant Consortium in partnership with S.C. Department of Natural Resources, the Beach Sweep/River Sweep event has removed more than 940 tons of aquatic debris since it began in 1988.

Anyone can participate—businesses, civic clubs, individuals, and church groups. Sign up for this year's event or mark your calendar for the 2010 Sweep!

Get Involved!

Saturday, September 19th, 9 a.m. - Noon

For more information:

Susan Ferris Hill, coastal coordinator, S.C. Sea Grant (843) 953-2092

Bill Marshall, inland coordinator, S.C. DNR (803) 734-9096

<http://www.sceagrants.org/content/?cid=49>

Our Mission is to protect public health and enhance the environment of our service community by providing clean water services of exceptional quality and value.

Our Vision is to become, by 2012, an organization worthy of a SC Governor's Quality Award through teamwork, customer focus, and performance excellence.

Q&A

*Where does my water come from?
How is it treated?
How can I protect it?*

Schedule a speaker to visit your school or community group and get the answers to all your questions about drinking water!

Call (843) 727-6856 or send an e-mail to info@charlestoncpw.com to schedule a speaker.



twitter

Charleston Water is now on Twitter!

Follow us:

www.twitter.com/ChasWaterSystem



Volunteers with the U.S. Navy collected over 2,000 pounds of debris from creeks around the Naval Weapons Station in Goose Creek, S.C., during the 2008 Beach Sweep/River Sweep.

Photo by Terrence Larimer, U.S. Navy

