PIMA COUNTY

Disposable Wipes Can Clog Pipes

Disposable wipes and moist towelettes allow for the convenient cleanup of sticky messes and are handy during diaper changes. Another common use is to sanitize germy surfaces. Some manufacturers of such wipes indicate on the product's packaging that the wipes are biodegradable and flushable.

Because many of us are concerned about the environment, we want to buy products that are biodegradable. When we are told that we can safely flush a biodegradable product, it makes its use both convenient and environmentally friendly.

Unfortunately, disposable wipes are rarely, if ever, biodegradable in the sanitary sewer system. Often their presence in the sanitary sewer system can cause clogs and equipment failure in lift stations where mechanical pumps facilitate the conveyance of sewage in many areas of our community.

Additionally, if too many wipes accumulate in the sewer system, they can block sewer pipes, which can lead to the overflow of raw sewage into streets, buildings and the environment. When disposable wipes make it through the sewer system to a wastewater treatment facility, they are removed and are taken to a landfill.

The Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) asks that you not flush disposable wipes down toilets – instead discard them in the trash. The proper disposal of these convenient and useful products will help keep our sewer system flowing properly. This will ensure PCRWRD can do its job to safely contain, convey, and treat our community's wastewater.

CITY OF TUCSON

Team Up to Clean Up!

Environmental Services (ES), working with Housing & Community Development (HCD), provides a limited number of roll-offs and dumpsters so that neighbors can work together to improve their neighborhood. The ***Team Up to Clean Up Program*** is available to registered Neighborhood Associations, Homeowners' Associations, or groups of ten neighbors who want to organize a clean-up:

- **If you are part of a registered Neighborhood Association**, visit the HCD website at **http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/hcd/neighborhood-clean-ups** for guidelines and to submit an application.
- **If you are a part of a group of residents in a formal Homeowners' Association, or an organized group of ten or more residents who all receive ES residential services**, your group can request free delivery and pick up of roll-off containers for your clean-up event once a year between July 1 and June 30.

Contact ES at (520) 791-3171 or **http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/hcd/neighborhood-clean-ups** for guidelines and an application form. Fill out the application form with your preferred clean up dates and submit it. ES will review your request and work with you to deliver containers based on availability. Once your request is approved, you can organize your neighbors for the clean-up.

Participate in the ***Team Up to Clean Up*** to clear clutter and yard waste from your neighborhood, alleys, and open areas without waiting for a scheduled Brush & Bulky collection. It's a great opportunity to work side by side with your neighbors toward creating cleaner, safer and more inviting surroundings.

Your utilities services statement includes fees for your water, wastewater, and environmental services.

The Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) – For more information about the regional wastewater system, call (520) 724-6500 or visit pima.gov/wwm.

Environmental Services (ES) – Learn about how ES is protecting our groundwater and the environment at tucsonaz.gov/esd and (520) 791-3171.