



*Borough of Longport*  
*Public Works Department*  
*2305 Atlantic Avenue*  
*Longport, New Jersey 08403*

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## **Flushable Wipes are Terrible for Plumbing**

**Question:** Are the wipes truly sewer safe, and is it a good idea to flush all those things above down a toilet?

**Answer:** According to, the Borough of Longport Public Works Supervisor, absolutely, positively NO! The only thing that should be flushed is toilet paper. It is also important to realize the less toilet paper you use, the happier your plumbing system will be.

The flushable wipes controversy is really a commonsense exercise. If you moisten a single sheet of toilet paper and rub it on your skin or a hard surface, you'll discover it rapidly falls apart. This is by design. You want toilet paper to disintegrate as fast as possible into the tiny cellulose fibers used to create it.

Finally, do the same test with a flushable wipe. You'll quickly discover they hold together far better than paper towels. Can you imagine what happens if there is not enough water to transport these through your in-house building drain and outside buried sewer line out to your city sewer? At some point, you'll get a clog or the Borough will get a clog that may affect many homes.

These wipes survive the long journey from your home through miles of sewer pipes, ending up at our municipal sewage treatment plant. They clog our pumps and are timely to correct.

The Internet is filled with stories about massive clogs in sewers and treatment plants caused by these wipes.

**Please Note:** If you must flushable wipes, we suggest you dispose of them in a sanitary way in a special garbage can, much like you would store a soiled baby's diaper, until trash day.

Public Works thanks you and we are here to serve you.