



# ORO LOMA NEWS

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(510) 276-4700

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Oro Loma Sanitary District  
2655 Grant Avenue  
San Lorenzo, CA 94580  
(510) 276-4700  
[www.roloma.org](http://www.roloma.org)

Questions:  
[info@roloma.org](mailto:info@roloma.org)

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## Your Toilet Is Not a Trash Can

Cleaning and disinfecting wipes, moist towelettes, personal hygiene wipes, baby wipes—they all are “disposable,” so why not flush them down the toilet? Quite simply, because disposing of such items in the toilet—even those labeled “flushable”—instead of in the trash causes big problems, both for the District and for the individual homeowner.

Mounds of disposable wipes clog sewer lines, pumps, and lift stations. They can cause sewer backups and damage plant equipment. Clearing wipes from the wastewater stream is time-consuming and labor-intensive. Even dental floss flushed down the toilet can cause problems. Dental floss is very strong and durable. It can get tangled up in pumps and equipment, or worsen minor clogs within pipes by “binding” materials together.

These items are also a big problem for property owners' home plumbing and sewer laterals, which are smaller in diameter and more susceptible to clogs.

The sewer system is not designed for disposable wipes, dental floss, or similar items. Sewer clogs caused by these items can result in considerable cleanup expense and potential harm to our environment.

Please don't use your toilet as a trash can! Only human waste and toilet paper should be flushed down your toilet. Put disposable wipes, dental floss, and similar items in the trash, where they belong.



*“Disposable” wipes that are flushed down the toilet must be removed so that they do not clog plant equipment.*