



SEWER COMPANY NEWS

Spring 2023

YOUR SEWER SYSTEM

Hidden Springs Sewer Company cleans and inspects the sewer mainlines routinely. Phase 6 and Phase 8 are next in rotation and scheduled for this spring. Master Rooter has found a significant accumulation of fats and built-up grease in many of the lines cleaned in Phase 1-5 as well as the recent cleaning of the lift station in Phase 8. Please refer to information below regarding what SHOULD and SHOULD NOT be put down your drains. The Sewer Company is responsible for the sewer mainlines from the point of connection, usually located in the right of way at the property boundary.

Homeowners are responsible for their sewer infrastructure on their property. Every home is connected to the mainline at a point of connection usually located in the right of way at the property boundary. Buildup, debris left over from construction and even tree roots can cause back-ups as well as be extremely destructive to your plumbing pipes. Master Rooter has extended a special offer to Hidden Springs Residents while they are here cleaning the mainlines in May. Master Rooter will camera inspect individual residence mainlines from the outside clean outs to the sewer main for \$150 a home, the normal rate for this service is \$264. To take advantage of this special offer, call 208-888-9191 and schedule your inspection and cleaning now through 7/31/23.

THE HIDDEN SPRINGS SEWER IS ON A LOW-FAT DIET

Please keep fats, oils and greases (FOG) out of your kitchen sink! When poured down the drain, FOG can build up in pipes and equipment and cause significant problems in the sewer system and wastewater treatment plants. Problems such as sewer line blockages that cause sewer overflows are the result of improper disposal of FOG. Sewer overflows cause environmental health hazards and property damage leading to increased operation and maintenance costs which show up as higher sewer bills. What is FOG? FOG refers to Fats, Oil, and Grease from food preparation and kitchen clean up. FOG is found in meat fats, lard, shortening, butter, margarine, food scraps, baking goods, cooking oil, sauces and dairy products.

Why should you care about FOG? Residential households contribute FOG build-up in the sewer lines because of the amount of grease washed into the plumbing system, usually through the kitchen sink. Sewer lines in older neighborhoods are most at risk of sewer backup if residents don't properly dispose of FOG.

What can you do? The easiest way to solve the grease problem is to keep FOG out of the sewer system by following these easy disposal tips:

- Never pour grease, fats, or oil down the sink or garbage disposal.
- Pour FOG into jars, cans, and plastic tubs or "Fat Trapper" container. Let contents cool and solidify. When the container is full, throw away with your trash.
- Mix cooking oil with an absorbent material such as cat litter or coffee grounds, place in a lidded container for disposal with your trash.
- For greasy pans, pour off the grease into a container mentioned above, and use a paper towel to wipe out the remaining grease in the pan prior to washing.

WHAT'S FLUSHABLE AND WHAT'S NOT!

Pee, poop and toilet paper are all okay to flush. The following items don't break down like pee, poop and toilet paper which clog household pipes, sewer lift station pumps, and cause sewer backups onto streets, businesses, and homes:

- Flushable wipes – Though advertised as "safe for septic systems and sewer," flushable wipes cause many problems for wastewater treatment facility.
- Diapers (cloth, disposable, "flushable")
- Facial tissues, cotton balls, swabs and pads
- Cleaning wipes of ANY kind (baby wipes, disinfectant wipes, moist wipes, etc.)
- Toilet bowl scrub pads
- Napkins (paper or cloth), paper towels
- Dental floss
- Hair
- Sanitary napkins, tampons, condoms, or any non-organic material
- Wash cloths, towels, rags (any cloth item)
- Kitty litter

Clogged pipes and pumps require significant maintenance to ensure the pumps are working properly. If they can't be repaired, they must be replaced. The solution to this expensive problem is to make sure that only toilet paper is flushed down the toilet!

SEWER COMPANY MEETINGS

Hidden Springs Town Association, Town Council Meetings are held once a month and open for residents to attend. Meetings start at 7:00pm and are held in the Community Clubhouse and on ZOOM. Hidden Springs Sewer Company business is addressed first and open to both Hidden Springs and Cartwright Ranch. Hidden Springs Town Association business is addressed second followed by an executive session (if needed). Meetings for the remainder of the year are scheduled for 5/23, 6/20, 7/18, 8/22, 9/19, 10/17, 11/9 and 12/5. The Annual Meeting is 12/12. Please check www.hiddensprings.com to confirm meeting dates as they are subject to change due to volunteer personal and professional commitments. Approved and signed meeting minutes are posted on the community website.

Working on your behalf, The Hidden Springs Town Association Town Council and Staff