

Streamwood Estates Condominiums has aging and delicate plumbing.



Recently, it has come to our attention that there are brands of cat litter that are being marketed as “flushable.” Please add “flushable cat litter” or any type of cat litter to the list of items that should never be put down your kitchen sink or toilet. Also, please do not clean your cat’s litter box, and attempt to flush the cat’s **fecal matter** down the toilet. A cat’s **fecal matter** is a different composition, and it dehydrates quickly and hardens thus likely to cause clogs in the pipes.

Flushing **cat litter** down the toilet, even if that **cat litter** is marketed as **safe for pipes**, allows *Toxoplasma gondii* to enter the water supply and increases the possibility of public infection. In short, it is NOT advisable to flush **kitty litter** down the toilet in ANY circumstance. The cat litter might be labeled “flushable” but that doesn’t mean it’s safe to send it down the toilet to the wastewater treatment plant. In fact, some State governments, including Rhode Island, prohibit pet owners from flushing pet waste. The California legislature even passed a bill that requires flushable cat litter manufacturers to add a statement to their packaging that discourages cat owners from flushing cat litter down the toilet.

Please take a moment to review the information below regarding items that should not be flushed down your toilet, not put down your sinks, and a reminder on how to use your garbage disposal. Clogged drains cause back-ups and can result in significant damage to your home, as well as to your neighbor’s home. In addition, if the service contractor tells the Association that the clog or back up was as result of something that you put down a toilet or sink... you will be billed back for all costs as a result of the incident. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

Toilet:

When it comes to worry-free flushing, stick to the basics: human waste and toilet paper only. While the list of what not to flush can go on and on... some things are commonly flushed which cause big problems: Dental floss, Grease, oil, fat and food, Band-aids, Disposable wipes of any type, Paper towels, Feminine hygiene products, Facial tissues, Cotton balls and Q-Tips, Hair, Medications, Kitty litter.

Sinks and Drains:

It is tempting to think we can put anything down our sinks. NOT SO! Even with a garbage disposal... avoid putting these items down your sink: Cooking oil, Grease, Produce stickers, Raw meat, Pasta, Rice, Fibrous vegetables, Coffee grounds, Flour, Nuts, Oatmeal, Eggshells, Potato peels, Onion skins, Bones, Pits and Shells.

How to use your garbage disposal:

1. Run a steady stream of cool water into the sink before turning on the garbage disposal.
2. Before placing any food waste into the disposal, turn it on first.
3. Gradually feed food waste into the disposal, avoid putting large amounts of food waste all at once as this may slow the grinding process.
4. Once the food waste has been broken down, turn the disposal off and let water run for a two minutes to flush the drain pipe.

USING A FOOD WASTE DISPOSER IS EASY!

