

BAG IT & BIN IT

...DON'T put rubbish
down your toilet.
It won't just disappear

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...DON'T put rubbish
down your toilet.

Please Bag it and Bin it instead.

Northern Ireland Water
PO Box 1023
Belfast
BT1 9DG

Tel: 0845 744 0088
Email us at: info@niwater.com

www.niwater.com



DON'T FLUSH IT

The only things which should be flushed down the toilet are human waste and toilet roll (not too much!)

NEVER FLUSH:

- Sanitary items - towels, tampons, applicators, panty liners, backing strips etc.
- Disposable nappies, liners and baby wipes
- All wipes - including baby, bathroom and toilet
- Condoms and femidoms
- Cotton buds, cotton wool
- Razors, toothbrushes
- Contact lenses
- Incontinence pads
- Colostomy bags
- Used bandages
- Syringes and needles
- Medicines



WHY BAG IT AND BIN IT?

What happens when you flush

Millions of sanitary waste items are flushed down Northern Ireland's toilets every year. The wastewater drain which runs from your house is just 4 inches wide, and it's only designed for human waste and toilet roll. Other rubbish can cause blockages. So every item you flush could make this problem worse.



This affects you

If you don't Bag It and Bin It, your toilet and drains could get blocked - costing you time and money to fix.



This affects everyone

Sanitary items can also block public sewers, and damage screens which are used to filter out the waste.



This affects the environment

During heavy rainfall, the flow in sewers increases hundreds of times. Diluted wastewater can sometimes be allowed to flow into rivers or the sea to prevent homes from flooding. Unfortunately, if sanitary waste has been flushed it can also escape, polluting rivers and beaches. This causes a health hazard, harms wildlife, and it's awful to look at too.



THE BEST WAY TO DISPOSE OF PERSONAL ITEMS

Sanitary towels, tampons and panty liners

Wrap well and put them in the bin. A bin can be kept in the bathroom for used products. Special disposal bags are available at pharmacies and supermarkets. In public toilets, place used items in the proper disposal unit.

Condoms, incontinence pads and used bandages

Wrap well and put them in the bin.

Disposable nappies, liners and baby wipes

Wrap well and bin. Never flush the nappy away.

Razor blades

Place used blades in a solid container, before putting in the bin to avoid injury. Never flush blades down the toilet.

Medicines

Return all unused or unwanted medicines to a pharmacy for safe disposal. Do not flush them down the toilet or put them in the bin. Always keep medicines out of reach of children.

Used syringes and needles

Needles and syringes should be taken to your nearest Needle Bank. Your local doctor or hospital can tell you where this is.

For more information
call Northern Ireland Water's Helpline on:
0845 744 0088 or visit
www.niwater.com

