



# Union County Sanitary Engineer

2020 Update

Jeff Stauch, County Engineer

**A**midst the current COVID-19 spread, we have recently seen a significant increase in the amount of disinfectant wipes, pre-moistened wipes and paper towels/towelettes entering our wastewater treatment facilities. Even though these products are sometimes advertised as “flushable” or “septic safe”, please note that only means that they are likely to make their way through your individual drains/fixtures without causing backup. Because these products do not break down like toilet paper, they get caught up in our pumps and cause clogging and pump burn out. They also combine with grease, hair and other materials in our system to form larger masses that could cause main line backups. This results in staff call out time and pre-mature costly pump replacement. These materials also have the potential to cause backup in your individual plumbing network, resulting in sewage backups and costly clean ups for homeowners. We ask that you please refrain from flushing anything down your toilets or drains other than toilet paper and human waste, and place everything else in your trash receptacle instead. Other items that you should refrain from flushing include: medication, dental floss, cigarette butts, feminine hygiene products, bandages and cotton balls. We aim to keep your monthly user rates as low as possible, and appreciate your cooperation.

**“FLUSHABLE” WIPES ARE NOT SO FLUSHABLE...**

Did you know that baby wipes may specify they are flushable, but they should not be put in our wastewater system? This also includes adult wipes, cleaning wipes (Clorox, Lysol), medical wipes, etc.

In fact, the only paper product that should be “flushed” is toilet paper. It is the only paper designed to break down as it travels through the wastewater treatment process.

## NEW ONLINE PORTAL

We are excited to announce the launch of our brand-new online portal for sanitary sewer customers. This portal will allow customers to check their payments and balances online, make payments online, and receive up-to-date information from the sanitary engineer. **The new portal will also allow customers to set up recurring credit card payments.**

To make a sewer payment online, go to:

**[www.co.union.oh.us/engineer](http://www.co.union.oh.us/engineer)**

We now accept sanitary sewer payments through the new online portal via credit card or e-check or through the mail or drop-box via personal check or exact cash. In an effort to keep both our staff and the members of the public safe, our building has been closed to the public. If you are dropping your payment off in person, please use the secure drop-box located just outside of the glass doors.

**NEW** - If paying by check, please make your check out to:

**Union County Sanitary Engineer**



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233 West Sixth Street  
Marysville, Ohio 43040

Phone—937.645.3018  
Email—[engineer@co.union.oh.us](mailto:engineer@co.union.oh.us)  
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