

# WHAT SHOULD NOT GO IN THE TANK?

The following materials have the potential to do great damage to your septic tank and drainfield. In order to maintain the health of your septic system, avoid flushing these materials down the sink or toilet.

## Paper Products



- Disposable diapers
- Paper towels
- Facial tissues
- Baby wipes
- Feminine hygiene products
- Cotton balls/swabs

Alternative disposal options:

These items should be thrown in the garbage. Paper towels can be composted if they do not have grease or chemicals on them.

## Food Wastes



- Animal fats and bones
- Grease
- Vegetable oil
- Coffee grounds
- Citrus and melon rinds
- Corn cobs
- Egg shells

Alternative disposal options:

Animal fats/bones, grease and oil should be put in the garbage. The other items can be composted.

## Inert Materials



- Dental floss
- Kitty litter
- Cigarette filters
- Bandages
- Hair
- Mop strings
- Lint
- Rags

Alternative disposal options:

These items should be thrown in the garbage.

## Chemicals



- Paint, paint thinner
- Solvents
- Automotive fluids
- Fuels
- Pesticides/Herbicides
- Fertilizers

Alternative disposal options:

Go to <http://www.rcbc.ca/recyclepedia/> and search for recycling locations in your community.

## Household Products



- Bleach
- Toilet disinfection tablets
- Harsh household cleaners
- Sanitizers
- Drain cleaners

Product alternatives:

Homemade cleaners with hydrogen peroxide and vinegar are very effective at killing harmful bacteria and won't damage your septic system. Google "natural cleaning recipes" for ideas.

## Medications



NO medications should be flushed down the toilet/drain

Alternative disposal options:

Expired or unusable medications can be taken to your local pharmacy for recycling. Visit <http://www.rcbc.ca/recyclepedia/> to find recycling locations in your community.