



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Don't Create a Monster: Think Before You Flush

Disposable wipes have been causing problems in communities around the country and Bakersfield is no exception. Wipes used for changing diapers, personal hygiene, housecleaning, and more — cause major problems when flushed down toilets. Though many of these products are labeled “flushable” they are anything but.

Because they don't break down the way toilet paper does, disposable wipes clog homeowner and City sewer pipes, put stress on the wastewater collection and treatment equipment, and cause cities to spend thousands on premature equipment repair and replacement. Wipes snag on any imperfection in sewer pipes, catch passing debris and grease, and create a “large tangle” that will grow to plug the pipe. They also get drawn into sewer-line and wastewater treatment plant pumps and clog and damage them.

The City of Bakersfield Public Works Department has partnered with the Marine Conservation Society, United Kingdom to bring awareness in a memorable way. The Don't Create a Monster – Think Before You Flush Public Outreach Campaign raises awareness to only flush toilet paper down the toilet.

Go to www.CantFlush.US for more information, printable resources, and videos. We have provided links to raw interview footage with Mike Connor, City's Streets Division Superintendent and B roll from two of our lift stations. The footage is being made available to local media for editing in any web or broadcast related to the issue.

Contact the City of Bakersfield Wastewater Division at (661) 326-3249 for more information.

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