
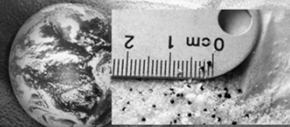


Current Issues with Septage

What is Flushable?



Update



Should We Worry About Microbeads?

Ray Gordon, NH Dept. of Environmental Services

28th Annual Spring Septic System Conference & Expo
By Ray Gordon, NH DES

What is Flushable?




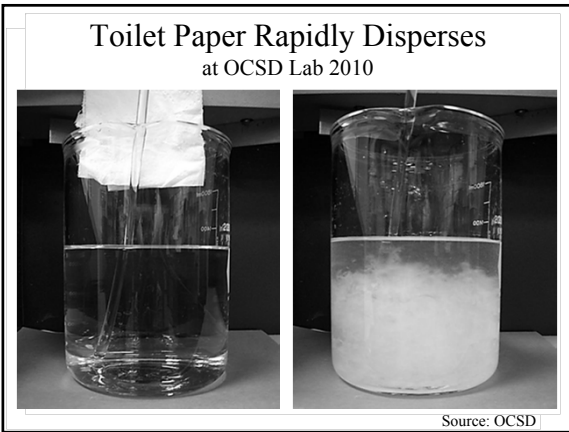
Update

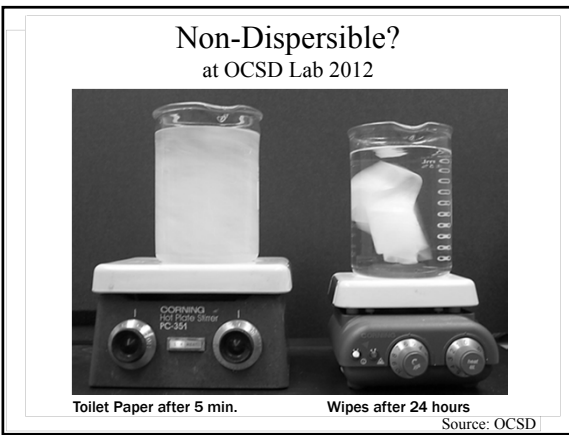
What is Dispersible?

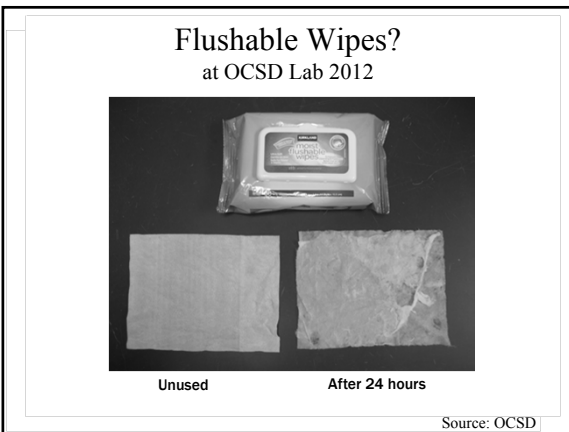
dis·perse (di-spûrs')

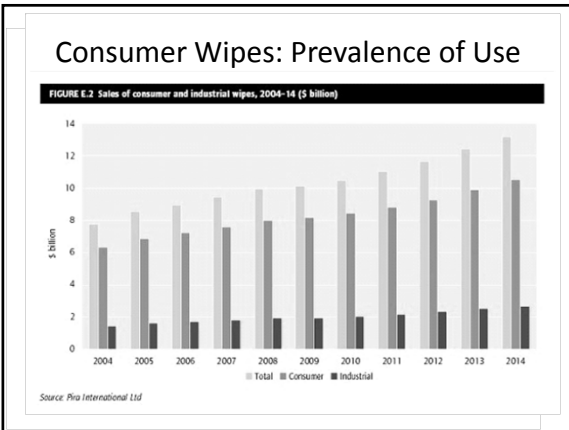
1.
 - a. To drive off or scatter in different directions: The police dispersed the crowd.
 - b. To strew or distribute widely: The airplane dispersed the leaflets over the city.
2. To cause to vanish or disappear. See Synonyms at scatter.
3. To disseminate (knowledge, for example).
4. To separate (light) into spectral rays.
5. To distribute (particles) evenly throughout a medium.

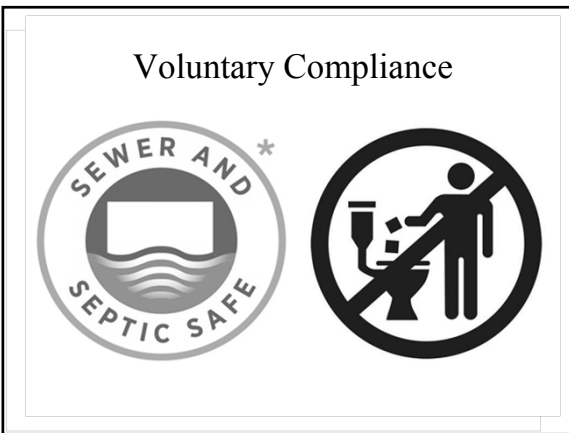


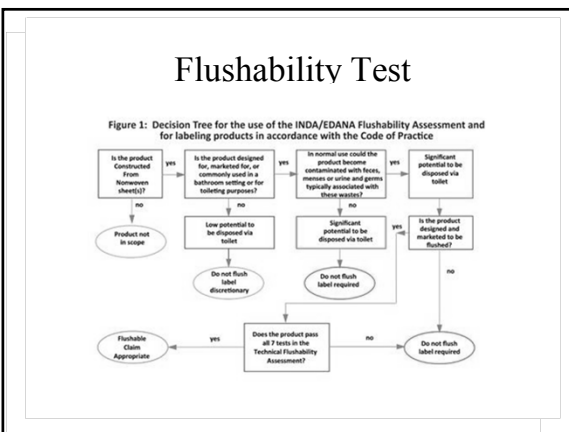












Impacts of Non-Dispersibles on Waste Treatment Systems



Baby Wipe Removed from Clogged Pipe



Septic Systems



Can Fill Up Septic Systems



Why toilet paper is okay to flush

- It rapidly loses strength when it gets wet.
- It often breaks into pieces during the flushing action of a toilet.
- It continues to break into pieces or fibers in the conditions normally anticipated in a typical wastewater collection system.
- It does not require the force of a mechanical device to break it into pieces.
- It has short fiber lengths that are unlikely to re-rope or entangle with other materials.
- It does not cause problems in sewers, septic systems, or treatment facilities.
- It is biodegradable and will not reduce the quality of biosolids.



“flushable” products need to act like toilet paper



Potential characteristics for wipes and any other product labeled “flushable” include the following:

- Like toilet paper, the product loses strength rapidly when flushed.
- The product breaks into pieces in a short period of time under conditions anticipated in a normal wastewater collection or septic system and without the aid of a mechanical device, such as a pump or grinder.
- The pieces that the product breaks into should be one inch or less in any dimension, since pieces this size typically do not cause problems for pumps and other equipment.
- The optimum time period for breaking down is still being determined, but it is clear that it needs to be less than 60 minutes since a wipe could reach a pump in that period of time. Additional work is needed to determine if a shorter time period is required for typical collection systems.
- The product is made of 100% biodegradable fibers, to prevent microscopic or larger pieces from appearing in effluent or biosolids.
- The product is not buoyant.

What's FLUSHABLE? Until all of these things happen, utilities will continue to preach the 3 Ps.

What's FLUSHABLE? A toilet will tell you that everything is flushable... but what you think is flushable could be costing you money!

Product labels can be misleading. Some items that claim to be "flushable" can clog sewer and septic systems and can end up costing you a pretty penny.

"Flushable" does NOT mean it is SAFE for your septic system or sewer.

"Flushable" items ARE NOT flushable and should be placed in the trash.

The bottom ONLY
Human waste and toilet paper
ARE FLUSHABLE

The DO NOT FLUSH List:

- Diapers
- Sanitizers
- Paper Towels
- Cotton Swabs
- Q-tips
- Conditioners
- Central Filtration
- Facial Tissues
- Wipes

What's FLUSHABLE? **Educational Brochure**

What's FLUSHABLE? A toilet will tell you that everything is flushable... but what you think is flushable could be costing you money!

Product labels can be misleading. Some items that claim to be "flushable" can clog sewer and septic systems and can end up costing you a pretty penny.

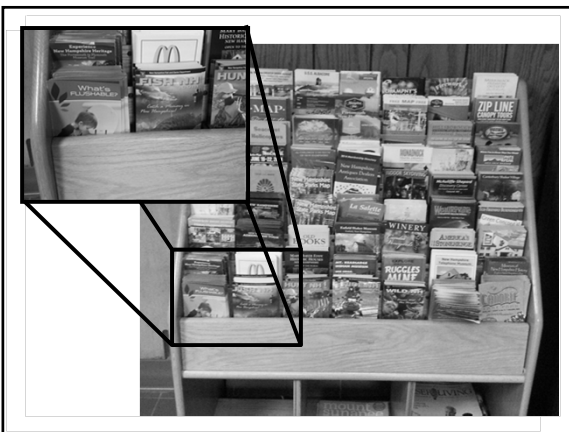
"Flushable" does NOT mean it is SAFE for your septic system or sewer.

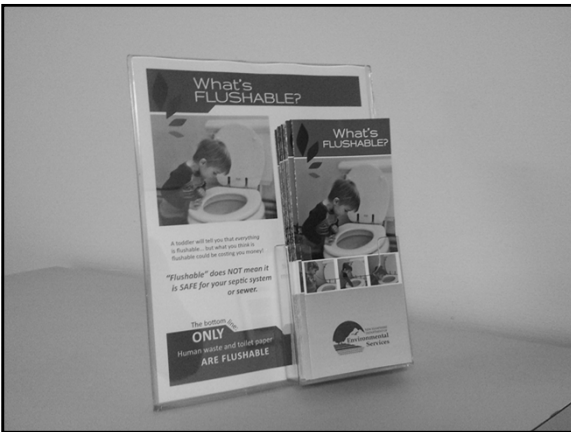
"Flushable" items ARE NOT flushable and should be placed in the trash.

The bottom ONLY
Human waste and toilet paper
ARE FLUSHABLE

The DO NOT FLUSH List:

- Diapers
- Sanitizers
- Paper Towels
- Cotton Swabs
- Q-tips
- Conditioners
- Central Filtration
- Facial Tissues
- Wipes









Contact Info



Ray Gordon
NHDES Septage Coordinator
Wastewater Engineering Bureau
(603) 271-3571
