

## Recommended Prohibitions for On-Site Systems

The following is a collaborative effort of wastewater professionals to list items which can cause on-site treatment systems to operate below their potential. These items are known to have caused failures of on-site treatment systems and must be considered if the waste generated by from a particular site will contain them in excessive quantities. Since excessive is a subjective word, it is highly recommended by Consolidated Treatment Systems, Inc. to share these concerns with a Professional Engineer or Designer to identify a treatment strategy for specific installations.

### Inert Materials:

**Plastics, rubber, scouring pads, dental floss, cigarette filters, bandages, hair, mop strings, lint, rags, cloth and towels** do not degrade in an on-site treatment system. Inert materials will build up solids, and lead to system malfunction, clogging or increased pump out frequency.

### Paper Products:

**Disposable diapers, paper towels, baby wipes, facial tissues**, are not designed to dissolve in an on-site treatment systems. Also, excessive amounts of toilet tissue will not decompose. All can lead to system malfunction, back-up or increased pump out frequency.

### Food Wastes:

**Do not put animal fats & bones, grease, coffee grounds, citrus & melon rinds, corncobs, egg shells**, down the sink. Garbage disposal use should limited to waste that cannot be scooped out and thrown in the trash. **Spoiled dairy products and yeasts** from home brewery or baking may cause excessive growth of microbes that could adversely affect performance.

### Medicines:

**Do not flush baby wipes, lotion, female sanitary products, cotton balls or swabs, condoms or expired medicines/antibiotics.** Septic Tank additives generally do more harm than good. Automatic Disinfection Tablets (blue, clear or otherwise) will kill the organisms needed to consume waste.



**Chemical & Toxins:**

Chemicals and toxins kill the microbes necessary for treatment. **Paint, paint thinner, solvents, volatile substances, drain cleaners, fuels, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, disinfectants, sanitizers, bleach, mop water, excessive use of household chemicals, and backwash water softener regeneration will adversely affect treatment.**

**Laundry Practices:**

On-site systems must process the water as it enters the systems. Laundry should be spread out over the week, not all run at one time. **Excessive use of detergents, especially those containing bleach, can affect system performance. Liquid detergents are recommended over powders. Fabric softener sheets are recommended over liquid softeners. Bleach should be used sparingly and at half the rate indicated on the container.**

**Clear Water Waste:**

**Clean water waste from A/C discharge lines, floor drains, gutters, whole house water treatment systems sump pumps can increase the flow to your treatment systems. These flows can disrupt or prohibit the treatment process.**

