VILLAGE OF

Stratford

WISCONSIN

March 2019 Newsletter

Not So "Flushable" Wipes

Many of us go to the store and purchase "flushable" wipes. The word "flushable" makes us believe that these wipes are likely to disperse or break up like any regular toilet tissue, right? Wrong! Actually, the term "flushable" has been used since these products were developed in the 1980s, and only defines that the wipes are within a size standard (small enough) to transit through the toilet and waste water system. Some of the "flushable" wipes contain latex-bonded fibers or are polyester web reinforced, therefore, not dissolvable. "Flushable" just means it won't clog your toilet.

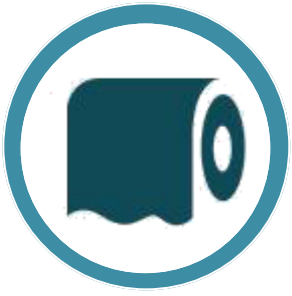
Flushable? Not really, at least not enough to prevent significant clogs in many sewage channels.

The question comes down to how quickly a flushable product breaks down in water. In 2013, Consumer Reports tested leading brands of flushable wipes and concluded that half of the wipes completely failed the disintegration test.

The plumbing industry uses the word "softball" or "fatberg" to describe a clog created by dozens of disposable wipes. The increased use of low-flow toilets only exacerbates the problem. This softball may occur in your home's drain system or further along in the municipal sewage lines. Many municipalities report significant increases in sewage system clogs and maintenance costs related to these softballs. The Village of Stratford maintains over 60,000 feet of sanitary sewage lines, treating an average of 2.3 million gallons of waste water on a monthly basis. The Village's sewer maintenance plan includes a regular cleaning of the sewage lines, known as jetting, which forces high-pressure water through the lines.

Until universal standards are put in place for all manufacturers of disposable wipes, it is recommended that these products be trashed...not flushed. Or look for wipes that are labeled as "dispersible", "biodegradable", or "compostable". Through careful disposal of these "flushable" wipes, sewer utility customers and the municipal sewer utility can avoid costly maintenance and repairs.

In a "disintegration test" done by Consumer Reports, 3 different types of "flushable" wipes were still intact after 30 minutes. In comparison, toilet paper



Dog Licensing

State law requires that all dogs are licensed.

Bring proof of current rabies vaccination to the village office to purchase a license.

Fees are $10 if the dog is spayed or neutered and $20 if it is not fixed.

A late fee of $30 per dog would be applied on April 1st.

Failure to license your dog(s) will result in a minimum fine of $124 per dog.

Unclaimed Property

The Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) has managed the unclaimed property program since 2013 and has returned more than $128 million in unclaimed property.

Unclaimed property includes funds from savings or checking accounts, uncashed dividends, insurance policies, or other accounts that the owner may have forgotten. Institutions such as banks, credit unions, insurance companies and other businesses are required to report unclaimed property to DOR each year by November 1. DOR then holds the property for safe keeping until it is claimed by the owner.

Visit www.revenue.wi.gov for more information about the program. An online database allows you to search for unclaimed property in Wisconsin.

Spring Election - Tuesday, April 2nd, 2019

Voting in the Spring Election takes place at the Community Hall for Village residents.

Need to Register? Want to see the ballot?

Visit **www.MyVote.WI.gov**
or visit the Village office.

Winter parking restrictions are still in effect through April 1st, regardless of the presence of snow. Vehicles cannot be parked on any village street or state highway between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:30 a.m.

Rummaging Around Stratford

May 2nd - 3rd - 4th

Deadline for signing up is April 5th!

Forms available at gas stations, Davel's, Subway, the Village office, & www.StratfordWI.com

Questions?

Contact Diedra @ 687-9213 or Maria @ 389-

NEED HOME REPAIRS?

The Village of Stratford has a housing program that offers 0% interest deferred payment loans to Low- to Moderate- income households for repairs to their home. Applications are accepted on a first come first serve basis.

The loan can be used to make the following types of repairs: Handicap Accessibility, Electrical, Plumbing, Heating and Other General Repairs.

LIMITED FUNDS AVAILABLE -

VILLAGE OF STRATFORD HOUSING PROGRAM

Please contact Kari Justmann at 1-800-552-6330 for an application or if you have any questions.

VILLAGE OF Stratford WISCONSIN

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www.StratfordWI.com

Department	Phone	* Email
Clerk / Treasurer	715-687-4166	stratfordclerk
Police Dept. (non-emergency)	715-687-3131	stratfordpolice
(in emergencies)	Dial 911	
Water & Electric Dept. (billing)	715-687-4166	stratfordutility
Shop (public works & utilities)	715-687-4118	stratfordpubworks

*Email addresses end in: @stratfordwi.com

Village Ordinances online: http://www.ecode360.com/ST2150

For after hours utility emergencies, please call 715-687-4118.

Listen to the message for the staff 's "on call" phone number.

Community Calendar

Mar 31 Dog Licenses Due

Apr 2 Spring Election

Apr 15-16, 22-23, 29-30 Curbside Yard Waste Collection

May 2-4 Rummaging Around Stratford

May 9 Spring Clean Up Day