



PUBLIC HEALTH

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March 19, 2020,

RAVALLI COUNTY CORONAVIRUS INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM UPDATE

SEWERS AND SEPTICS

As of 4 p.m., today, there are no confirmed cases of Coronavirus in Ravalli County.

The Ravalli County Incident Management Team for Coronavirus was put together to provide the most current and accurate information affecting the health and welfare of our community.

There is no way to talk delicately about this topic: sewer and septic issues. As toilet paper has become somewhat of a shortage item, “things” are getting put in the sewer system and septic tanks that are not intended to be there. What happens next is not pleasant and will cause significant damage to those systems.

The ‘bottom’ line, only flush toilet paper.

Our plumbing and septic companies are receiving numerous calls about plumbing issues. Their response to your situation could be delayed due to this improper use.

In towns, damaged/clogged sewer systems could affect the town’s entire sewer system and water supply. Improper use of homes and business septic systems, will result in system failures. Septic and sewer failures will result in sewage backing up into homes and possible drinking water contamination.

We continue encouraging residents to stay calm, follow recommended cleaning measures, practice social distancing measures and stay home if you are sick.

Do not flush the following items:

Paper towels

Feminine hygiene products such as pads, panty liners, and tampons

Paper towels or paper napkins.

Feminine hygiene products, such as pads, panty liners, and tampons.

Diapers or baby wipes.

Cotton balls or cotton swabs.

Razor blades or disposable razors.

Toothpicks.

Toothbrushes or dental floss.

Teeth-whitening strips.

Facial wipes or antibacterial hand-cleaning wipes.

Cloth rags or towels.

Bandages, medical tape, or adhesive bandage strips.

Syringes, lancets, blood-sugar test strips, or other medical devices.

Medication, either over-the-counter or prescription type.

Food, candy, grease, cooking oil, or similar material...

Wrappers or packaging.

Hair.

Condoms, condom wrappers, or other birth control items.

Make-up pads, sponges, or applicators.

Empty containers, bottles, bags, or boxes.

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