

## **Preventing Toilet Clogs and Sewer Backups**

### **What Is and Isn't Flushable**

Newer low flush toilets are not designed to dispose of anything other than human waste and toilet paper.

Many commonly flushed items will cause a sewer backup, especially with a low flush toilet installed. These include facial tissues, wipes, napkins, paper towels, floss, coffee grounds, hair, feminine hygiene products, grease and other fats or oils, medications, plastic and diapers. As these items sit in waste pipes, they block other material flushed afterward, eventually forming a clog which causes a backup.

### **Addressing Slow Drains**

A slow or weak flush often indicates that a clog is forming in your toilet drain. Instead of waiting until no water at all will go down, take care of the problem immediately. Plunge slow or weak flushing toilets as they occur.

### **Identifying the Source of a Backup**

While it is not always possible to identify the source of a sewer backup, there are times when the source is clearly identifiable. Clogs that are close to the source will identify which apartment, and what material caused the backup. If a sewer backup can be identified to your apartment the cost of clearing the clog will be your responsibility.