

Duluth North Shore Sanitary District

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2015

This newsletter is published quarterly with pertinent and important information for our residents.



BOARD MEETING TIME AND LOCATION

Third Tuesday of the month, 7 AM, French River Lutheran Church

The District's Board of Directors are volunteers residing in the District. Each represents residents of a geographical region in the District.

MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.



WHEN POWER GOES OUT

The grinder pump cannot dispose of wastewater without electrical power. Limit water usage to an absolute minimum because of a possible sewer backup.



Summer Months

When your home is left unoccupied for longer than a month, DO NOT turn off the power to the grinder pump. Power must remain ON at all times.

Winter Months

When your home is left unoccupied for longer than a week, contact People Service at 218-590-5911. A recommended precaution, and if it is feasible, allow a fast flowing water source to run long enough to initiate at least one or two pump cycles a week, 30 to 40 gallons. More details can be found on our web site.

EMERGENCY CONTACT

On Call Operator
24 Hours A Day
218-590-5911

BILLING CONTACT

218-409-2287
services@fiop.biz



PREPARING FOR FALL AND WINTER

When the winter brings cold temperatures and no snow, our grinder pumps are vulnerable to freezing. It is advisable to contact the system operator when leaving for an extended period of time.



INFLOW/INFILTRATION

All clear water sources must be removed from entering the sewer. Sump pumps, gutters, foundation drains, broken underground pipes are examples of what are considered illegal connections. This is I and I. It is not only punishable by fines, but it also wears out the infrastructure causing damage and significant costs to the sewer system.



DISTRICT WEB SITE

www.DNSSD.org

Web Site contains information on ordinances, policies and procedures, emergency and billing contacts, new connections, meeting minutes, and what not to flush.



AS A PRECAUTION

Residents are advised to contact their insurance company regarding the amount of coverage available in the event of a sewer backup.

What Not to Flush

In the October 2015 issue of Consumer Reports, page 23, a small article is entitled “Beware of Wipes.” It addresses the marketing ploy regarding supposedly flushable wipes. Their bottom line is “Don’t use your toilet as a wastebasket. Toss used wipes into an actual garbage can. The advice holds true for tissues and paper towels.” The District supports this concept.

Your sewage grinder pump is capable of accepting and pumping normal wastewater. The District’s Ordinance #1, Section 8.3 advises that the items listed here should not be introduced into any sewers via drains, toilets, kitchen waste disposals, showers, and dishwashers.

If any non-acceptable items are discovered and/or cause a pump failure, the owners will be responsible for any and all costs associated with the repair (Bill Back, Ordinance #1, + Section 9.5)



RULES FOR RESIDENTIAL CONNECTIONS

Building is not permitted within ten feet on either side of the grinder station and sewer line as they are located within your easement.

Do not attempt to open your control box. Several components are high voltage and extremely dangerous.

DO NOT FLUSH

Band Aids
Bath + Body Oils
Toxic Chemicals
Cigarettes
Coffee Grounds
Condoms
Dental Floss
Diapers
Drugs
Explosives
Facial Tissues
Fish + Animal Waste/Remains
Flammable Materials
FOG (Fats, Oils, Grease)
Food Wastes
Foundation Drain Water
Fuel Oil
Gasoline
Glass
Groundwater
Large Amounts of Hair
Kitty Litter
Lubricating Oil
Medications
Metal
Paint
Paper Towels
Plastic Objects
Plaster
Pool + Spa Products
Q Tips
Rags/Cloth
RV Waste
Sanitary Napkins
Socks
Solid Objects
Storm Water
Sump Pump Water
Tampons
Toys
Wet Wipes (Baby + Facial)



FATS, OILS AND GREASE (FOG)

In the wastewater treatment world, a fat free home is a happy home—in the pipes and grinder basins anyway! Fats, oils and grease (FOG) materials often enter your home’s sewer pipes in liquid form, usually in the kitchen sink. The FOG separates and floats on the water in the pipe, solidifying as it cools down. Those materials can coat the sewer pipe walls and build-up over time. Place your cooled and solidified cooking fats in a container instead of the drain. The pan full of bacon drippings following Sunday morning breakfast, or that rich shortening-based frosting go in the container. You protect your pipes and ultimately your home from a potentially damaging clog. Clogs create sewage overflows or sewer back-ups. Discard the solidified contents in your trash can.

Comments and suggestions are welcome.

**Editor: Katie Kuettel,
Secretary, Board of Directors**