



*** IMPORTANT SEWER SYSTEM INFORMATION ***

MAINTAINING/WINTERIZING YOUR GRINDER PUMP

Before leaving your home or cottage for the winter months or more than 21 days, the following steps should be taken:

1. Flush the Grinder Pump and Sewer Line with clean water by filling a bathtub to the overflow and draining it at least three times. Or run at least 100 gallons of water through the system. You should hear the grinder pump run no less than three (3) times.
2. **DO NOT** disconnect the power supply going to the Grinder Pump.

ONGOING OPERATION/USE OF YOUR SEWER SYSTEM

The Michigan Department of Environment Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) provides the following tips for years of trouble-free performance from your grinder pump system:

NEVER PLACE THE FOLLOWING INTO YOUR DRAINS OR TOILET:

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| 1. Cooking Grease (oil)* | 6. Cloth (rags, towels, clothing, etc.) |
| 2. Diapers/Sanitary/Hand Wipes* | 7. Petroleum or Flammable Materials |
| 3. Sanitary Napkins/Tampons* | 8. Any Type of Corrosives |
| 4. Plastic Objects (bags, toys, etc.) | 9. Any Type of Paint Products |
| 5. Glass/Metal/Wood | 10. Powdered Laundry Detergents |

*** NOTE: There is no such thing as a flushable wipe!** Even if the package indicates “flushable,” they will clog the Grinder Pump causing failure and an **additional charge** to the homeowner for non-routine service.

Additionally, to maintain your system properly and help reduce the likelihood of failure you should:

- **Wipe all pans of any cooking grease before washing.**
- **Disconnect all sump pumps and gutters from your sewer system, unless your washer drains to it. This adds unnecessary water into the system which can become overloaded during rain events.**

PLEASE DO NOT FLUSH ANYTHING OTHER THAN WASTE OR TOILET PAPER!

HIGH LEVEL ALARMS: Your Ginder Pump system is equipped with a **RED** alarm signal light and/or audible alarm. This indicates a problem with your system; please do the following:

1. **Silence audible alarms by pushing the button on the bottom or front of the alarm box.**
2. **Call the EMERGENCY phone number: (517)-592-2727**
3. **Limit your water usage as much as possible (no laundry, water softener, etc.)**

In the unfortunate event of a power failure your Grinder Pump system will not operate, so you should limit your water usage as much as possible until the power is restored.

If you have a **NON-EMERGENCY** question about your Grinder Pump system, please feel free to contact Columbia Charter Township at (517)-592-2000 Monday through Thursday 7:30am – 5:00pm.