

HALIFAX AREA WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

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GENERAL MAINTENANCE & USE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MUNICIPAL GRINDER PUMP SEWER SYSTEMS

A grinder pump system generally processes and pumps household sewage to the public sewer system and is used when connecting to a low-pressure sewer main or in the event that the existing homeowner sewer system and/or existing topography does not allow a gravity lateral connection to a gravity sewer main.

These systems are effective and reliable but, like any piece of equipment, following certain rules and maintenance guidelines can prolong the life of the system and prevent possible damage to your property.

DO

- DO notify the Authority as soon as possible in the event of the grinder pump alarm sounding. If the alarm is sustained, restrict water usage as a back up into the home may occur.
- DO minimize water usage. Reducing the volume of water going into the system reduces pump run-time, extending the working life and reducing power consumption.
- DO call PA One Call (811 OR 1-800-242-1776) prior to any digging on the property to prevent the unintentional damage of sewer or power lines to/from the grinder pump system.
- DO check with a qualified electrician for proper use if you choose to use a generator during a power outage. Any costs resulting from damage to the equipment caused by the generator may be charged to the homeowner.
- DO reduce/discontinue water use during a power outage. Even if water service is available the grinder pump will not operate and may cause a back-up into the home.

DO NOT

- DO NOT connect stormwater runoff drains into the wastewater system. An increased load may result in the early failure of the system and may cause a back-up into the home.
- DO NOT bury the grinder pump basin lid or obstruct with plants or other structures. Easy access must be maintained to allow a fast and effective response in the event of a failure or emergency.
- DO NOT flush flammables, toxics, cloths, cigarettes, sanitary napkins (even those labeled "flushable"), tampons and applicators, or other solids. This can lead to early failure of the system and may cause a back-up into the home.
- DO NOT flush or drain grease into the system. Grease can clog sewer lines and pumps and cause a back-up into the home.