



FLUSHABLE WIPES

Never flush any products besides toilet paper. Wipes, tissues, paper towels, and other paper products don't break down in water like toilet paper does, leading them to clog pipes.

Even "flushable" wipes are more robust than toilet paper, leading to massive problems, as shown above. Throw them and other products in the trash instead.

BE PROACTIVE!

Are you insured?

Check your homeowner's or renter's insurance policy to see if they include flood damage or damage due to sewer backup. Your policy may require the additional purchase of a rider. Consider purchasing if you live in a high risk area.



City of Mount Clemens
Utilities Department
1750 Clara
Mount Clemens, MI 48043
Phone: 586-469-6889

SANITARY SEWER LEAD MAINTENANCE & BACK-UP PREVENTION



Property Owner's Preventative
**Maintenance Tips for
Reducing Basement
Backups**

mount
clemens

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TOP 3 CAUSES OF BASEMENT FLOODING

1. Sanitary Sewer Back-ups which can be caused from blockages in the lateral (private sewer line) or obstructions in the public sewer system.
2. Groundwater seepage through the basement walls via cracks, poorly functioning sanitary sewer drains or footing drains.
3. Surface runoff from poorly graded property can cause water to enter your home through exterior openings such as window wells and vents or exterior stairwells.

IF YOUR BASEMENT FLOODS

WHAT TO DO

- Contact Water and Sewer Department for mainline sewer condition at your location.
- Contact your insurance company prior to initiating clean-up.
- Protect yourself by wearing gloves, boots and eye protection. Take care not to spread any sewage contamination to other parts of your home.
- Mop up and dry any water that you can.
- Clean and disinfect the area and all surfaces that have come in contact with flood water with a solution of 8 Tablespoons of liquid chlorine bleach per gallon of water.
- Dispose of any items exposed to sewage.
- Take photographs of ruined items for insurance claim purposes.
- Remove damaged drywall within 24 hours. This will help eliminate the growth of mold.
- Call a Professional Water Damage Company **immediately**.

WHAT NOT TO DO

- Do not allow children or pets to play in the flooded area until it has been thoroughly sanitized
- Do not bring any electrical appliances near water, especially fans.
- Do not use or touch electrical items that are plugged in. Do not attempt to turn on any appliance soaked in the flood, contact a service company for instruction.
- Do not use heat to dry building interiors, as this can cause mildew and additional damage.
- Do not enter rooms with sagging ceilings.

If you experience a sewer problem, please contact the Water and Sewer Department at (586) 469-6889



TIPS TO HELP PREVENT BASEMENT FLOODING

- Have your house sewer line (from your home to the city sewer) professionally cleaned at least once a year.
- Make sure to ask your contractor for a video inspection of your sewer line.
- Check basement walls for cracks.
- Repair and waterproof. Consult a Professional for repairs.
- Properly seal any exterior openings, including basement window wells and vents.
- Keep water away from your foundation by properly grading landscaping away from the house, and extending downspouts at least 5 feet from the foundation.