



SEWER EJECTOR PUMP MAINTENANCE

Sewer ejector pumps are installed in basements that have bathrooms or laundry rooms below the sewer line. They pump waste into the main septic line. Your owner's manual is a good resource, and a licensed professional should check your sewer ejector pump yearly.¹ There are a few things you can do to help extend the life of your sewer ejector pump.

Toilet Paper Only

The rule of thumb is that toilet paper is the only thing you can safely flush. In order to avoid issues, you might want to post a sign in your basement bathroom to warn guests of the sensitivity of your system.²

Grease Is Not the Word

Grease and other oil and fat-based food materials should not be poured down your basement drains, or any other drain in your house. (This also includes your garbage disposal.) Grease can harden and stick to pipes and can eventually lead to a blockage, not just within your plumbing, but also with the pipes in your neighborhood.³

Other Items to Avoid

These items should not be put down any toilet or drain in your home:³

- Coffee grounds
- Egg shells
- Produce stickers

- Feminine hygiene products
- Paper towels
- Rags
- Solvents, paints, turpentine, nail polish, polish remover
- Flammable or explosive substances
- Corrosive substances that are either acidic or caustic
- Prescription and over-the-counter medications

Proper Basin Seals

The top of the sump basin should be sealed properly so that no waste or smell can be emitted. If the seal looks loose or has been taped instead of sealed, consult with your licensed professional.¹ ■

Sources

1 <http://www.doityourself.com/stry/how-to-clean-out-your-sewage-ejector-pump#b>

2 <http://www.handymanhowto.com/how-to-replace-a-sewage-pump-check-valve-part-1/>

3 <http://www.care2.com/greenliving/what-not-to-put-down-your-drain.html#ixzz3AIEHcPlc>

DISCLAIMER: This guide is not intended to replace regular maintenance by licensed professionals. Always refer to owner's manuals and consult professionals before tackling unfamiliar tasks.