

AMSTERDAM CHURCHILL COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT

WASTEWATER SYSTEM UPDATE

*Amsterdam-Churchill County Sewer District No. 307
7200 Churchill Road, Manhattan, MT 59741*

Wastewater System Update

The Amsterdam-Churchill County Sewer District's dated, and leaking lagoon wastewater treatment system has been replaced with a new sanitary sewer lift station and pipeline. Wastewater collected throughout the District is now conveyed to the Town of Manhattan for wastewater treatment and discharge, eventually to the Gallatin River. The new wastewater system has been in operation for 3-months but the District is still working through a few operational items to provide a safe and reliable system for both the Sewer District and the Town of Manhattan.

Now that the system is operating, the District would like to remind the system users to be aware of what is going down the drain at your home or business. The District is charged by the Town of Manhattan based on an established rate to treat every gallon of wastewater delivered to the Town's Treatment Facility, therefore, every gallon counts. Additionally, the District has a grinder that breaks down objects in the wastewater stream into small pieces so that the pipeline does not get plugged. The grinder works great on most items but items such as "flushable" baby wipes, cleaning wipes, and hygiene products tend to be problematic to grinders, pumps, pipelines and the wastewater treatment equipment. Please avoid flushing these products, no matter what is indicated or claimed on the product label. We have attached a publication with this newsletter which identifies some common household waste products and the appropriate means of disposal.

District Sewer Ordinances Reminder

The Board would like to remind system users of the Ordinances that were instated in 2013. The system Ordinances identify system development fees, establishes industrial waste rates/assessments, regulates system discharges, and identifies limits to user discharge quantities. The Ordinances are essentially the same as those for the Town of Manhattan. Bottom line is wastewater is expected to resemble typical domestic wastewater, free of chemicals, oils, debris, or other foreign material generally not present in domestic strength wastewater. Discharges of such material are in violation of the Ordinances and will have negative effect upon the wastewater collection and treatment processes. The potential costs of these effect would be assessed against the District as a whole and could ultimately affect user rates if the source of such contaminates could not be pinpointed.

The District tests the influent wastewater for parameters to identify undesirable waste products. Recent test results have exposed a few prohibited discharge items. The District will be investigating the possible sources of these discharges and discuss means of removing them from the system.

If you would like to review a copy of the Ordinances, please contact the District Manager, contact information below.

Would you like to get involved?

The Sewer District is currently in search for residents who would like to get involved by filling vacancies on the Board of Directors. The Sewer District Board is required to meet quarterly but additional meetings may be necessary throughout the year.

Board Member duties include representing the District users, reviewing and voting on the District's finances, guidelines, resolutions, and ordinances.

For additional information or to apply for the vacant board position, please contact the District Manager, contact information below:

Current Board of Directors and Staff

Please feel free to contact the Board of Directors or Staff at any time with questions or comments

Board of Directors

Hank Dyksterhouse (President)

Dean Danhof

Harold Vander Molen

Shane Leum

Vacant

District Manager

Jeff Dyksterhouse

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HOUSEHOLD WASTE CHART*

The following chart from the Water Environment Federation will show you effective ways to dispose of household waste and contribute to a sustainable clean environment.

Blue waves ≈ indicate products which can be poured down the drain with plenty of water. If you have a septic tank, additional caution should be exercised when dumping these items down the drain. In fact, because septic systems rely on healthy bacteria, there are certain chemical substances that cannot be used with them. Be sure to read the labels to determine if a product could damage septic systems.

KITCHEN	TYPE OF WASTE DISPOSAL			
Aluminum cleaners		▼		
Ammonia-based cleaners	≈			
Bug sprays			⊗	
Drain cleaners			⊗	
Egg shells		▼		
Floor care products			⊗	
Furniture polish			⊗	
Metal polish with solvent			⊗	
Window cleaner		▼		
Oven cleaner (lye base)			⊗	
Fats, oils and grease (including oil from turkey fryers)		▼		
BATHROOM	TYPE OF WASTE DISPOSAL			
Bathroom cleaners		▼		
Diapers (baby wipes)		▼		
Disinfectants		▼		
Toilet bowl cleaner		▼		
Tub and tile cleaners			⊗	
Pharmaceutical products or drugs (expired or used)		▼		
Personal care products (aftershave, perfumes, depilatories, permanent or other lotions, hair relaxers, nail polish, dyes, waxes)		▼		
Sharps (needles for diabetics)			⊗	
GARDEN	TYPE OF WASTE DISPOSAL			
Fertilizer			⊗	
Fungicide			⊗	
Herbicide			⊗	
Insecticide			⊗	
Rat poison			⊗	
Weed killer			⊗	

Yellow triangles ▼ indicate materials which should not be poured down the drain, but can be safely disposed of in a sanitary landfill or incinerator. Note that medicines can often be taken to a community drug take-back program or mixed with undesirable substances such as kitty litter or coffee grounds. Pills (except narcotics) can also be dissolved and mixed with regular trash. Be sure the material is properly contained before it is put out for collection or carried to the landfill. The red octagons ⊗ indicate hazardous wastes or materials that should be saved for a community-wide collection day or given to a licensed hazardous waste contractor when left over or unused. (Even the empty containers should be taken to a licensed contractor if one is available.)

GARAGE	TYPE OF WASTE DISPOSAL			
Antifreeze			⊗	♻️
Automatic transmission fluid			⊗	♻️
Auto body repair products			⊗	
Battery acid (or battery)			⊗	♻️
Brake fluid			⊗	
Car wax with solvent			⊗	
Diesel fuel			⊗	♻️
Fuel additives			⊗	
Fuel oil			⊗	♻️
Gasoline			⊗	♻️
Kerosene			⊗	♻️
Metal polish with solvent			⊗	
Motor oil			⊗	♻️
Other oils			⊗	
WORKSHOP	TYPE OF WASTE DISPOSAL			
Cutting oil			⊗	
Deck cleaners/stains			⊗	
Glue (solvent based)			⊗	
Glue (water based)		≈		
Paint (latex)		▼		♻️
Paint (oil based)			⊗	
Paint (auto)			⊗	
Paint (model)			⊗	
Paint brush cleaner with solvent			⊗	♻️
Paint brush cleaner with TSP		≈		
Paint stripper			⊗	
Paint stripper (lye base)			⊗	
Paint thinner			⊗	♻️
Primer			⊗	
Rust remover (with phosphoric acid)			⊗	

Green leaves ♻️ indicate material that can be recycled or reused or shared with neighbors or family members. If there is a recycling program in your area, take the materials there. If not, encourage local officials to start a recycling program.

***The information contained in this chart is intended as a general guideline. Laws and regulations may vary from state to state. For more information on the safest way to dispose of these and other products, contact your area's solid and hazardous waste department or federal or state environmental agency. Check manufacturer's label for specific disposal guidelines.**

WORKSHOP, Cont.	TYPE OF WASTE DISPOSAL			
Turpentine			⊗	♻️
Varnish			⊗	
Wood preservative			⊗	
MISCELLANEOUS	TYPE OF WASTE DISPOSAL			
Aerosol cans (empty)		▼		♻️
Aerosol cans (not empty)			⊗	
Ammunition			⊗	
Artists' paints (acrylic)		▼		♻️
Artists' paints (oil based)			⊗	
Cat litter		▼		
Cellular phones			⊗	♻️
Dry cleaning solvents			⊗	♻️
Fiberglass epoxy			⊗	
Gun cleaning solvents			⊗	♻️
Lighter fluid			⊗	
Mercury batteries			⊗	♻️
Moth balls			⊗	
Old fire alarms			⊗	
Fluorescent light bulbs			⊗	
Pet care products (flea and tick repellent)		▼		
Photographic chemicals			⊗	
Shoe polish			⊗	
Swimming pool chemicals			⊗	
White-out (used for corrections)		▼		

- ≈ — Can be poured down the drain with plenty of water.
- ▼ — Cannot be poured down the drain, but can be safely disposed of in a sanitary landfill or incinerator.
- ⊗ — Hazardous wastes.
- ♻️ — Recycle, reuse, or share.