

Pine Creek Canyon Domestic Water Improvement District

GRINDER PUMP AND THE SEWER SYSTEM--Do's and Don'ts

The homeowner's grinder pump is the front-end of the wastewater treatment process at Portal IV. Repairs and maintenance of the grinder pump are the responsibility of the homeowner. Major issues are occurring in our modern world in trying to remove chemicals, medicines, etc. from our wastewaters, so regulatory requirements are becoming far more stringent in cities, small towns, and even rural areas that utilize evaporation/percolation ponds for final discharge of treated wastewater by-products. To protect the homeowner's grinder pump and the District's wastewater treatment equipment, be careful what you put down the sinks, drains and toilet.

- Appropriate retention devices must be in place to minimize the amount of fat, oil, grease, and other contaminants from entering the grinder pumps and the District's wastewater treatment system.
- No liquids, including floor-cleaning chemicals, waxes, paint, varnish, photo lab chemicals, solvents, paint thinners, etc. can be added to the wastewater/grinder pump systems.
- No Recreational Vehicle holding tank waste, automobile fluids, anti-freeze, etc. can be added to the grinder pumps or wastewater collection system.
- Sand, water softener granules, or other solids used in water softeners cannot be added to the sewer system.
- Anti-bacterial agents, chlorine, bleaches, and other laundry products must not be used beyond normal residential household volumes. Liquid laundry detergents, softeners, and dishwasher soaps are recommended.
- Tampons, sanitary napkins, condoms, baby wipes, diapers, paper towels, household clean-wipes, newsprint, cigarette butts, cat litter, etc. must not be flushed down the toilets.
- **Most important, do not dispose down the household drains or the grinder pump any chemical or treatment products designed for use in septic systems. The PCCDWID treatment plant is significantly different than a normal septic system in terms of biological bugs and processes used to break down and treat normal residential waste.**