
Protecting the Environment

You may have read the articles in the local newspaper about the damage being done to the Village Waste Water Treatment plant (WWTP) and the high costs associated with getting and keeping the plant running its' most efficient. There are a few simple things you can do to help keep the plant running its best and help keep sewer rates down.

✓ DO NOT!

- ✓ Use drain cleaning products containing **Copper Sulfate**. Copper is a heavy metal which may not be removed by the normal treatment process. Not only can it be toxic to the treatment plant's microbes but it leaves the treatment plant as a pollutant in both the effluent and the biomass (sludge), thus becoming a potential environmental contamination. Costly plant modification would have to be made if copper removal is required as part of the Village's discharge permit.

✓ DO

- ✓ Use drain cleaning products containing *Dichlobenil*. Products containing Dichlobenil can be purchased locally.

✓ DO NOT!

- ✓ Flush anything down the toilet except normal waste. Although some sanitary and baby products claim to be flushable, their bulkiness cause major problems on their way to the treatment plant and they take a long time to break down once they get there.

DO NOT

- ✓ **Dump or flush chemicals or prescription drugs down your drain.** You would not give your pets chemicals to drink...why give the good "bugs" in our treatment plant them? The micro-organisms that keep our plant healthy need good bacterial to help them clean our water. When we pour chemicals down the drain we kill off the organisms making our plant less efficient. Be kind to our sewer bugs!

The Village of Merrilan would like to thank you for your cooperation in these issues we are faced with in meeting our waste water permit requirements that will assure a safer environment for the future.