

## DID YOU KNOW?

**FOOD WASTE GRINDER  
DISCHARGE TO THE LOCAL  
SANITARY PLANT  
FOR TREATMENT**

**WATER TREATMENT AND TAX  
COSTS RISE SUBSTANTIALLY  
WITH FOOD WASTE IN  
OUR SEWERS**

**FOOD WASTE FROM  
FOOD WASTE GRINDERS CAN  
CAUSE YOUR SEWER TO  
BACKUP**

**WATER REQUIRED TO FLUSH  
ORGANICS THROUGH  
PIPES INCREASES  
YOUR WATER BILLS**

**THE USE OF FOOD WASTE  
GRINDERS HAS BEEN  
BANNED IN SOME  
COMMUNITIES**

**ORGANIC WASTE IS BETTER  
USED FOR COMPOSTING**

## COST CONSCIOUS

It has been estimated that one household in one year can use up to 4,000 litres of water to flush organics down a food waste grinder. This puts an unnecessary strain on the local water supply and increases your monthly water bill.

Other methods of organic waste disposal are not quite as hard on treatment facilities. More maintenance to sewage treatment facilities will mean higher taxes.

Cost to treat food waste grinder	\$400 per tonne
Cost to landfill	\$120 per tonne
Cost to compost in backyard	\$0 per tonne

## BY-LAWS

Towns, municipalities and cities have by-laws in place that limit the amount of solids you can put into the sewer system. In using a food waste grinder, you are likely putting yourself in contravention of the sewage by-law limits.

Food waste grinders may be prohibited in your area. Be sure to check your local by-law regulations.

# SINKS ARE NOT GARBAGE CANS

## FOOD WASTE GRINDER



**WHY YOU  
SHOULD NOT USE A  
FOOD WASTE GRINDER**

## WHAT IS A FOOD WASTE GRINDER?

A food waste grinder is an appliance that is installed beneath the kitchen sink to grind food wastes into small particles, which are then discharged into the sewer system with the aid of tap water.

Food waste grinders offer convenience, allowing for the immediate disposal of kitchen food waste down the drain. However, this convenience needs to be balanced against the initial capital cost, maintenance and eventual replacement of the food waste grinder, and potential clogging of our sewer system.

## WHY ARE THEY BAD?

Food waste grinders can cause blockages in sewer pipes and pumping stations because they increase food particles and grease. They can also block the line that leads from your house, causing sewage to backup into your home.

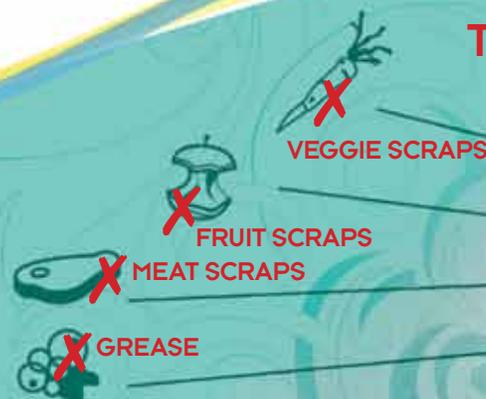
Added organic waste to our sewer system means added loads to treat at waste facilities. This directly increases operating costs and in the end increases taxes for the municipality. Food waste grinders don't really solve any waste problems, they just shift them to the wastewater treatment facilities.



## WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

- ✓ Remove old food waste grinders that you currently have installed
- ✓ Scrape all food scraps into the trash
- ✓ Put strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids. Empty the strainers into your trash or composter for disposal
- ✓ Put food scraps into a **composter**

**FATS, GRAVY, BUTTER AND COOKING OIL SHOULD NEVER BE DISPOSED OF DOWN THE DRAIN.**



### THE DON'TS

VEGGIE SCRAPS

FRUIT SCRAPS

MEAT SCRAPS

GREASE