# TIPS FOR TROUBLE-FREE PLUMBING

hatever goes down drains in your home enters a system of sewer pipes, pumps and wastewater treatment facilities. The treated wastewater is eventually discharged into Suisun Bay or recycled. Pipes and pumps can be clogged by grease, wipes and other items. Treatment facilities are unable to remove all traces of chemicals and other pollutants from household products that go down drains, and these pollutants end up in the Bay.

Please follow these tips to prevent clogs, avoid costly repairs, and help protect the environment.

### KITCHEN >

#### SINK DRAIN, GARBAGE DISPOSAL & DISHWASHER

- **1.** Before washing pans and dishes (whether manually or in the dishwasher), scrape food scraps into the trash.
- **2.** Pour cooled grease and cooking oil into a disposable container, store it in the freezer to harden, then put it in the trash.
- 3. Never allow these to go down the drain or garbage disposal:
  - Grease
  - Greasy/fatty foods
  - Fat, lard, shortening
  - Meat drippings
  - Frying oil
  - Salad oil
  - Butter, margarine
  - Dairy products
  - Soups & Sauces
  - Coffee grounds
  - Produce stickers
  - Meat
  - Egg shells
  - Bones
  - Nuts



- **4.** Minimize use of the garbage disposal by putting food scraps in the trash, instead. If you use the disposal, feed it small amounts slowly while running cold water.
- **5.** Never pour chemicals, solvents, pesticides or paint products down any drain, inside or outside the house. Do not put them in the trash. Bring them to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility for free, safe disposal.
  - Call **1-800-646-1431** or visit **www.centralsan.org/hhw** for more information.



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### BATHROOM

#### **TOILET, SINK, SHOWER & BATHTUB DRAINS**

- 1. Flush ONLY human waste and toilet paper. Put these in the trash, never in the toilet:
  - Disposable wipes (even if labeled "flushable")
  - Feminine hygiene products
  - Condoms
  - Disposable diapers (even if labeled "flushable")
  - Paper towels
  - Cigarette butts
  - Dental floss
  - Cotton swabs
  - Cat waste & litter (even if labeled "flushable")
- **2.** Prevent hair (from people and pets) from going down the drain.
- **3.** Never flush or pour unwanted medications down a drain. Bring them to a pharmaceutical collection site for free, safe disposal.

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