# Taking Care of Your Wastewater System

*Congratulations!* Your Subdivision includes reliable, carefully engineered equipment for the collection and treatment of household wastewater.

When properly designed and installed, onsite wastewater treatment does a terrific job of decomposing household waste and recycling precious water resources. The treated effluent is returned harmlessly to the soil, where it receives final polishing and filtration for groundwater recharge.

The system will work better and last longer if you learn what can go into it and what can't. Little effort is required. Just read and practice the "do's and don'ts" that follow. Every member of your household should be familiar with these. And if you have guests who want to "help out in the kitchen," be sure to tell them, too. With this preventive maintenance, your onsite wastewater system should function for decades and you will save money on additional maintenance costs!

Think at the Sink



#### Do:

- Use your trash can to dispose of substances that cause maintenance problems and/or increase the need for septage pumping.
- Eliminate or limit the use of a garbage disposal.
- Properly dispose of coffee grounds & food.
- Put grease in a container to harden before discarding in the trash.

## Don't ever:

- Pour cooking grease or oil down the sink.
- Rinse coffee grounds into the sink.
- Pour household chemicals down the sink.

Don't Overload the Commode



#### Do:

 Use your trash can to dispose of substances that cause maintenance problems and/or increase the need for septage pumping.

## Don't ever:

- Flush the following:
  - > Cooking grease or oil
  - Non-degradable products or chemicals
  - Egg Shells, cantaloupe seeds, gum, coffee grounds
  - Tea bags, chewing tobacco, cigarette butts
  - Paper towels, newspapers, candy wrappers
  - "ANY" wipes!
  - Condoms, dental floss, diapers, tampons/sanitary napkins
  - Rags, large amounts of hair, cat liter

Nothing but "TOILET PAPER"