



CITY MANAGER \* CITY HALL \* 100 STATE STREET \* BELOIT, WI 53511

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

For more information contact:  
City of Beloit Water Resources  
608-364-2888

**Wastewater Utility Update**

**August 23, 2013** - The City of Beloit's Wastewater Utility is experiencing an increase in sewer maintenance costs due to the disposal of wipes that are labeled as "flushable." These wipes do not break down in the sewer system and should not be flushed; they should be placed in the garbage. The wipes cause blockages in sewer pipes and cleaning crews have noticed an increase in emergency call outs due to such blockages.

In addition, after wipes travel to the City's lift stations they often cause pumps to plug. Each incident requires the removal of nearly fifteen (15) pounds of this debris. A significant drop in the efficiency of our pumps is being noticed due to these wipes clogging the impellor. As the pumping efficiency drops, the cost to run the pumps increases.

The costs associated with wipes have increased due to more frequent cleaning intervals and additional landfill disposal fees. Sewer back-ups into homes are also increasing due to the wipes and grease blockages in private laterals. Please note that costs incurred due to blockages in private laterals are the responsibility of the property owner. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter.

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