



# OPERATION Ripple Effect™

## SIMPLE STEPS: BIG BENEFITS FOR THE MOHAWK RIVER

### PROJECT BULLETIN

Normally, our sanitary sewer system has enough capacity to operate properly. But, when we get heavy rains or sudden snow melts, stormwater overwhelms the system and causes overflows into the Mohawk River. That stormwater runoff enters the sanitary sewer system from multiple sources, including deteriorated and damaged public sanitary sewers and private property connections, such as roof leaders and sump pumps.

Operation Ripple Effect is a program of the Oneida County Sewer District that asks residents, businesses, and municipalities to do their part to reduce overflows. Together, we can help keep the Mohawk River clean.



### SIMPLE STEPS: DON'T FLUSH "FLUSHABLE" WIPES!

The Oneida County Sewer District's Operation Ripple Effect™ is asking you to take simple steps at home to help keep our Oneida County sanitary sewer system working efficiently. By now you know that FOG (Fats, Oils and Grease) shouldn't go down the drain. But did you know that flushable wipes also cause a BIG problem?

While many different brands offer wipes with "septic-safe" or "flushable" claims, the fact is that these wipes are NOT biodegradable – they DO NOT break down. Once flushed, they stretch into long strings and wrap around pipes in the sewer system. They can also combine with cooled FOG causing clogs, backups and expensive repairs. If you decide to use wipes, please dispose of them in the garbage.

### Other products that should not go down the drain:

- **Hazardous waste: paint, gasoline, cleansers and other chemically-laden materials**
- **Hygiene products**
- **Rubber or latex**
- **Prescription drugs**
- **Fat, oil and grease byproducts from cooking**



**Together, we can make a difference.**

The OCSD Website has recently been updated!

Get inspired with other simple projects at [RippleEffectOCSD.org](http://RippleEffectOCSD.org).



Contact [cmanion@paigegroup.com](mailto:cmanion@paigegroup.com) to schedule a briefing. For more news and reports, visit [www.RippleEffectOCSD.org](http://www.RippleEffectOCSD.org).  
An Initiative of the Oneida County Sewer District

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