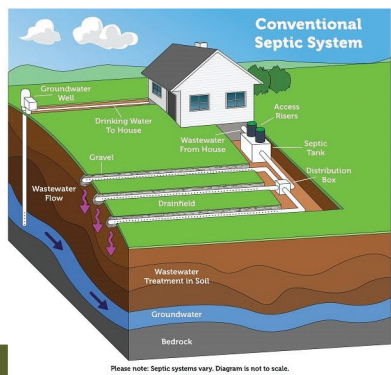




Septic & Sewer



Please note: Septic systems vary. Diagram is not to scale.



Different Systems, Same Rules

Some homes within North Port Utilities' service area utilize well and septic systems as they do not have access to municipal water and sewer service mains. Though the process to handle wastewater through a septic system is different, the rules are very similar for keeping both systems working efficiently and without blockages.

Think Before You Flush

Materials such as flushable and non-flushable wipes, fats, oils, grease, diapers, feminine hygiene products, diapers, plastics, cigarette butts, and kitty litter should be placed in the TRASH, not the toilet. These items can clog pipes and cause costly repairs.

Don't Compound the Problem

Using septic tank cleaning compounds or harsh chemical cleaners can impair the tank's efficiency and may inhibit the septic system from functioning properly.

Garbage In, Garbage Out

Kitchen scraps and coffee grounds placed in your garbage disposal add extra waste loading to the system. Put them in the trash or compost.

TIP: Have your septic tank inspected every 2 or 3 years and pump out as recommended.

Have Questions? Contact Us! We're Here to Help!

North Port Utilities

Customer Service: 941.429.7122
Field Operations: 941.240.8000
www.CityofNorthPort.com/Utilities

Do You Know Where Our Drinking Water Comes From?



Protect & Conserve!



Myakkahatchee Creek Cocoplum Waterway Peace River Ground Water Wells

Don't pollute the water we depend on!



www.CityofNorthPort.com



Waste Less Water, Enjoy North Port More!

PROTECT & CONSERVE

Everyone wants clean, fresh, quality water. The choices you make today can help conserve our natural resources and prevent pollutants from entering North Port's waterways and drinking water supply in the future.

By being aware of and abiding by the restrictions on watering, fertilizing, and disposing of waste, you can help protect our environment. Let's all do our part to be "Water Smarter!"

Watering Restrictions

The City of North Port encourages all City residents to conserve water by making the best use of this valuable resource. As part of our effort to make every drop count, the City has watering restrictions in place to minimize wasteful use.

Lawn Watering

Addresses ending in even numbers water Thursday and/or Sunday before 10:00 a.m. or after 4:00 p.m.
Addresses ending in odd numbers water Wednesday and/or Saturday before 10:00 a.m. or after 4:00 p.m.

Important Notes:

- No watering between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- New lawns and plants: 60 day establishment period remains in effect. For the first 30 days, new plantings may be watered any day of the week. During days 31-60, watering is restricted to every other day. Even numbered addresses water on Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday. Odd numbered addresses water on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday.
- Landscape Watering: Hand-watering and micro-irrigation of plants (other than lawns) can be done on any day at any time, as needed.
- Reclaimed Water: Watering remains subject to voluntary watering hours, unless blended with another source. The City encourages reclaimed users to take appropriate measures to eliminate wasteful use, and to follow the guidelines as listed above.

Fertilizer Ordinance

The City of North Port discourages the use of fertilizer year-round.

The City of North Port's Fertilizer Ordinance has a restricted period of June 1 through September 30 each year which **prohibits use of nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizer on turf**, but landscape plants can still be fertilized with fertilizer containing 50% or more slow release nitrogen. In the period after September 30 and before June 1, fertilizing of both turf and landscape plants are allowed.

The City recognizes that fertilizers from many sources can enter into our waterways and may contribute to algal blooms including the Florida red tide organism, *Karenia brevis*, which has caused widespread detrimental effect along the coastal communities. These nutrient pollutants can affect the regional watershed, and the City of North Port desires to be part of a regional effort to improve water quality. Water quality is critical to the Charlotte Harbor estuarine system and watershed. It is also critical to the City of North Port's environmental, economic, and recreational prosperity and to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City.

Keep Fertilizer Away from Waterways!

If you must utilize fertilizer, maintain at least a 10-foot unfertilized buffer around creeks, waterways, ponds, and ditches. Don't apply fertilizer past the top of bank. This will prevent the fertilizer from directly entering the waterway.



Know Where It Flows

Did you know rainwater flows over your yard and into roadside swales that lead to 79 miles of waterways in North Port? The Cocoplum Waterway and Myakkahatchee Creek are our primary drinking water sources. Rain can wash garbage, oil and grease spills, fertilizers, pesticides, and animal waste into our waterways.

Pet Waste - Poo-llution!

The average waste matter from a dog contains over 5 million particles of fecal bacteria. When it rains, that bacteria can be washed into our waterways - our drinking water source! Eww! When you consider that a typical dog excretes about 1/2 lb of solid waste a day, and there are around 49,000 dogs in Sarasota County, that's about 12 tons per day!

Also, consider that dog poop can transmit parasites such as hookworms, roundworms, tapeworms, and ringworm! These parasite eggs can survive for years in your yard!

One more thing. Pet waste releases nitrogen which feeds algae blooms, which deplete light and oxygen from our waters - killing both beneficial aquatic grass and fish.



Poop Happens, Pick It Up!

Utilize pet waste bags to pick up after your pet and make sure to "Trash the Bags!" Bagged pet waste should NEVER be flushed down the toilet. Throw it in the trash! Thank you, North Port!

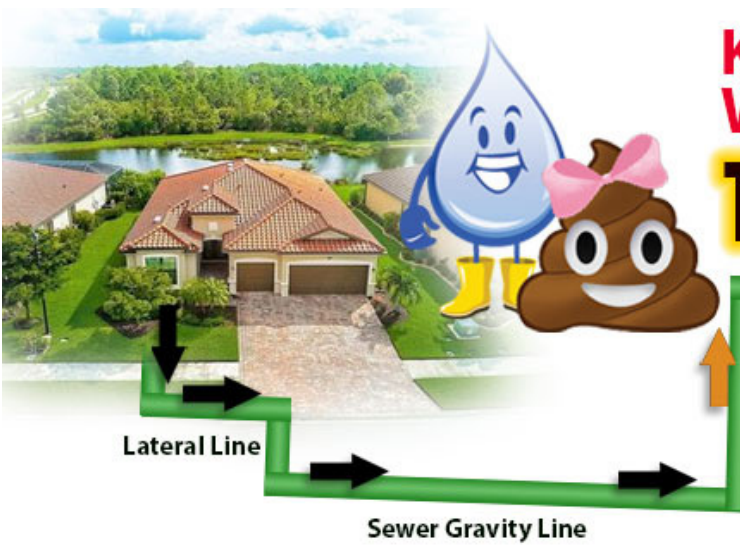
ONLY FLUSH THE 3 Ps



North Port FLORIDA UTILITIES

Keep Our Lift Stations Working Properly!

TOILETS AREN'T TRASH BINS

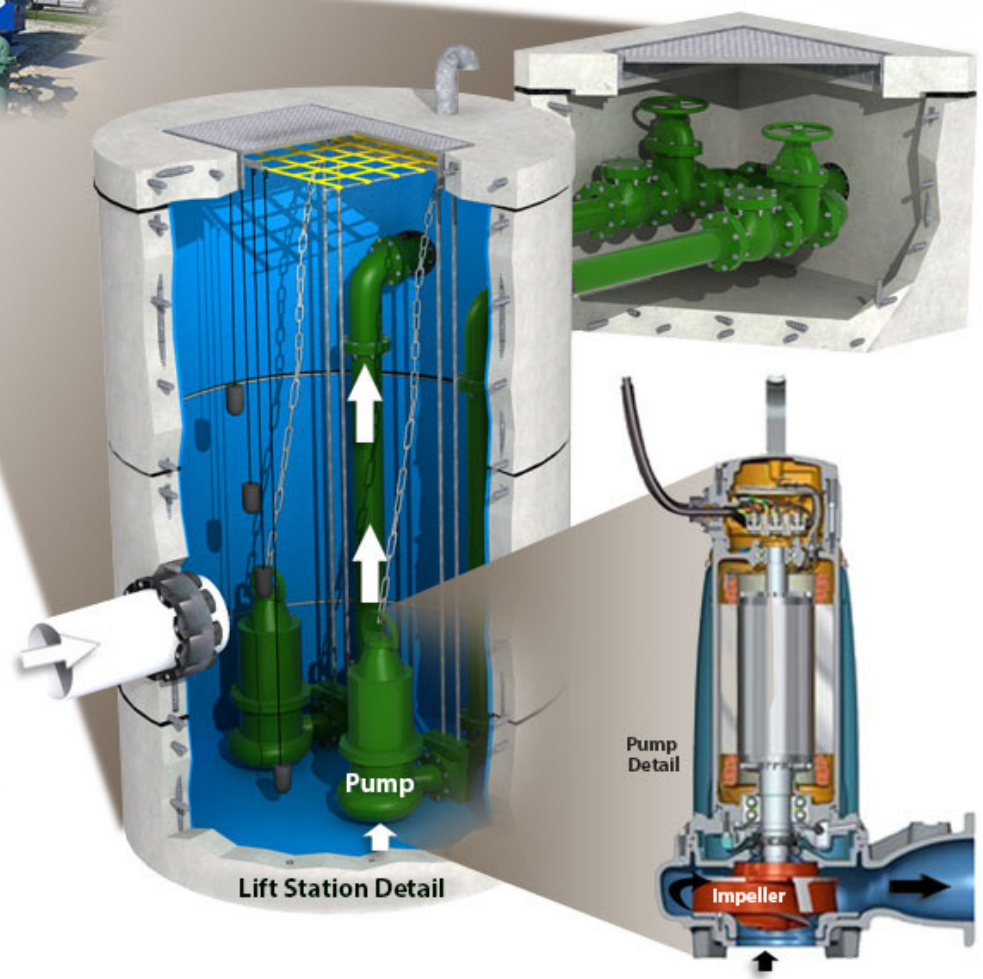


Lift Station

Actual Clogged & Blocked Lift Station Pump Unable to Function

May Cause:

- Backups in Your Home
- Sewage Spills
- Line Breaks



Tangled & Stopped by:

- Flushable/Non-Flushable Wipes
- Fats/Oils/Grease
- Plastic Bags
- Hair
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Diapers/Paper Towels



For more information about "What to Flush" please visit: www.CityofNorthPort.com/WhatToFlush: