



# Cohasset Sewer Commission

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## Notice to Customers with Grinder Pumps

### **Homeowner's Responsibility for Proper Use and For Cost of Corrective Service**

Grinder pumps are mechanical devices with moving parts. Like your car, it is important they be used properly. In the case of grinder pumps, the most important homeowner usage precaution is to avoid introducing foreign objects into the system. Foreign objects are anything other than normal sewage, toilet paper, and garbage disposer throughput. This was explained in the hookup package mailed to all our customers when the new sewerage system became operational.

To date many service calls have been made to unclog clogged grinder pumps. The foreign objects we found included tampons, dental floss, baby wipes, Q-tips and cigarette butts.

We made another set of service calls in which it was established that the electrical circuit breaker inside the house was open, so no power could get to the pump.

**Both foreign objects, which clog the pumps and open circuit breakers, can be avoided by normal precautionary use of the system. The Sewer Commission has not built into the sewer rates the cost for such corrective service calls. Therefore, it is necessary that we recover such costs, which are usually in the \$85-\$150 range, from the customer.**

Please expect to be billed for corrective service calls. We hope you will understand and cooperate with this policy.

### Reminder - Winter Shutdown

If you will be away for periods in excess of two weeks, please request the Sewer Commission to arrange for a winter shutdown of your grinder pump. This consists of blowing out the connecting piping to the street. There will be a \$45 charge. When you return, you can resume normal operation of your system.