

## DID YOU KNOW?

GARBURATORS DISCHARGE TO THE LOCAL **SANITARY PLANT** FOR TREATMENT

WATER TREATMENT AND TAX COSTS RISE SUBSTANTIALLY WITH FOOD WASTE IN OUR SEWERS

FOOD WASTE FROM GARBURATORS CAN CAUSE YOUR SEWER TO **BACKUP**

WATER REQUIRED TO FLUSH ORGANICS THROUGH YOUR PIPES INCREASES **YOUR BILLS**

THE USE OF GARBURATORS HAS BEEN **BANNED** IN SOME COMMUNITIES

ORGANIC WASTE IS BETTER USED FOR **COMPOSTING**

## COST CONSCIOUS

It has been estimated that one household in one year can use up to 900 gallons to flush organics down a garburator. This puts an unnecessary strain on the local water supply and increases your monthly water bill.

Other methods of organic waste disposal are not quite as hard on treatment facilities. More maintenance to water treatment facilities will mean higher taxes.

Cost to treat garburator waste \$400 per tonne

Cost to compost in backyard 0 per tonne

Cost to landfill \$120/tonne

## BY LAWS

Towns, municipalities and cities have bylaws in place that limit the amount of solids you can put into the sewer system. In using a garbage disposal you are likely putting yourself in contravention of the sewage bylaw limits.

Garburators may be prohibited in your area either to replace, install, or even have in your home at all. Be sure to check with your local bylaw regulations.

Contact information:



# SINKS ARE NOT GARBAGE CANS

## GARBURATORS



## WHY YOU SHOULD NOT USE A GARBURATOR



## WHAT IS A GARBURATOR?

A garburator is an appliance that is installed beneath the kitchen sink to grind food wastes into small particles, which are then discharged into the sewer system with the aid of tap water.

Garburators offer convenience allowing for the immediate disposal of kitchen food waste down the drain. However, this convenience needs to be balanced against the initial capital cost, maintenance and eventual replacement of the garburator, and potential clogging of our sewer system.

## WHY ARE THEY BAD?

Garburators cause blockages in sewer pipes and pumping stations because of the increase in food particles and grease. They can block the line that leads from your house causing sewage to backup into your home.

Added organic waste to the sewer system means added loads to treat at waste facilities. This directly increases the operating costs and in the end increases taxes for the municipality. Garbage disposals don't really solve any waste problems, they just shift them to wastewater treatment facilities instead.

Garburators damage our environment and cause sewage treatment plants to become overloaded. If wastewater isn't treated properly, excess pollutants are diverted into our rivers and lakes.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

- Remove old garbage disposals that you currently have installed
- Scrape all food scraps into the trash
- Put strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids. Empty the strainers into the trash for disposal
- Put food scraps into a **composter**



## THE DON'TS

**FATS, GRAVY, BUTTER AND COOKING OIL SHOULD NEVER BE DISPOSED OF DOWN THE DRAIN.**

