



FAQ for Lift Station

At Summer Reach, wastewater is pumped to the town sewage system through a Lift Station. A lift station is a pumping mechanism that moves the wastewater from a lower elevation to a higher elevation. Since much of the Summer Reach community is located at a lower elevation than the local sewage system, all waste water is transferred through the lift station.

The lift station is located underneath the Victory Garden and its components include a receiving wet well, two wastewater pumps or “grinders” that mix the waste water, valves, a smaller dry well, etc. We have a maintenance contract with PureFlo to perform preventative maintenance to ensure that it continues to function properly. Additionally, there is an alarm system to notify authorities of a failure to the system and a generator in case of a power outage.

In order for our septic system to function properly and to avoid a failure that could cause sewage to back up to our homes, it is imperative that only human waste and toilet paper be flushed. Many products are labeled as “Septic Safe” but are not. Flushing any product that doesn’t immediately fall apart under running water could cause septic backup problems (this includes packaged wipes, paper towels and Kleenex tissues). PLEASE DO NOT FLUSH THESE ITEMS!

Also, dumping items such as frying oil, grease (from bacon, chicken, pork, etc.) egg shells, coffee grounds, rice, pasta, Heavy Bath Oils, etc. down your drain can clog the Lift Station pumps which can result in expensive repairs for the association. Although our homes came with in-sink garbage disposals, food waste can also clog the drain-pipes in your own home over time, which will be an individual homeowner’s responsibility to repair.

For additional information, click the below link for Town of Plymouth guidance on how to avoid problems with the sewer system.

<https://www.plymouth-ma.gov/551/Sewer-Backups>