Costly Repairs versus Convenience
Costly repairs to sewer lines or pumps due to damages caused by the wipes can run into the thousands of dollars and more. Municipalities can also be fined by MDE for sewage spills created by these avoidable blockages. Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendents and operators alike are dealing with these problems more and more. Financial hardships throughout the country because of already deteriorating infrastructure, on top of repairs due to clogs, outweighs the cost of convenience. Not only does this cost each municipality but the repair costs are passed along to consumers with increased maintenance costs due to the problems. Even private septic systems can have problems. Septic systems may fill up faster and need to be pumped more frequently with less capacity for holding raw sewage due to the space taken up by the cloth debris.

Consumer Education
Consumers aren’t aware of the problems these disposable items are creating. Public Works Departments all over the country have started campaigning to promote awareness through public media, schools, etc. to educate consumers about the dilemma.

What can consumers do to help?
▷ Flushables! Only flush toilet paper down the toilet.
▷ Disposables! Toss wipes, towelettes, cleansing cloths, etc. into trash receptacles where they belong.
▷ Pass the word! Inform neighbors, family and friends about the problems caused by disposing wipes, towelettes, cleansing cloths, etc. into the sewer system.
▷ When in doubt, throw it out! If you’re not sure the item you’re using should be disposed of in the toilet then throw it in the trash. Avoid the unnecessary expense of clogging the sewer system or having a private septic tank pumped more often than necessary.