



Learn more about IP3 Strategy [here](#)

## Hair - Nope, Not Flushable!

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### 1. Impact Design

**Impact Statement** - If I keep hair out of my household's sinks, showers, and toilets, I will prevent clogs in my city pipes, ensuring that wastewater systems can function properly to keep our environment healthy.

Community Alignment	
Group	Goal/Action
<u>City of Kirkland</u>	The City of Kirkland's website reminds people to be mindful of what they flush down the drain as those choices impact how clean Kirkland's lakes and streams are.
<u>King County</u>	King County lists hair as an item not to flush down the toilet. Keeping hair out of toilets and drains will help keep city pipes unclogged and allow material to move smoothly down pipelines without getting caught by hair. The properties of hair can make clogging from fats, oils, and grease more impactful.

#### Procedure - Steps for implementation!

1. What makes hair so disruptive to sewer systems? Learn about the [properties](#) of human hair and think about what this might mean for my local pipes. Hair tends to [snag on anything in its course](#) and ball up easily, creating a web that captures more and more particles as it travels down pipes.
2. Do a Drain Audit, testing household drains for clogs and functionality. If drains already have hair in them, follow this procedure to deal with clogs without needing to use harsh chemicals: pour a cup of baking soda into the drain and wait 3 minutes, then pour a cup of vinegar into the drain and let the mixture sit for a few hours.
3. Prevent hair from going down drains by throwing away hair in a trash can when brushing hair, brushing hair before showering to remove weak strands, and adding mesh screens over drains frequently exposed to hair.
4. Discuss findings with my household members, as well as other community members I know, encouraging them to follow the same steps to keep hair out of drains.

## 2. Impact Data Tracking - Quantify your impact!

To think about my impact on sewer systems, I can track a few indicators of keeping hair out of drains:

# of mesh screens added to household drains: **13** (3 in my household + 10 in other households)

# of people I've shared information with about hair and drains: **15**

That's **13** drains now protected from loose hair and **15** individuals working to keep our pipes healthy!

## 3. Impact Storytelling - Share your data with who needs to know! See more [tips](#)

Think on 4 scales of stakeholders... Family, School, Community, and Aligned Groups

Stakeholder	Interests	Approach
Family — Parents, sibling, grandmother	Preventing clogs in our household	<b>Family Conversation:</b> explain what I have learned about the impact of hair clogs in drains to family (including that hair can be compostable) and urge parents to buy more drain covers/ reach out to more of our extended family since we all have thick hair.
School — Friends	Keeping their household drains clog free/ environment clean	<b>Personally Reaching out:</b> texting and emailing friends from school that are members of earth corps (environmental club) to educate them about the effects of hair clogs in drains and urge them to address the issue in their home and/or community.
Community — General Public	Functioning drains, wellbeing of natural habitats	<b>Infographic:</b> Create a small infographic to share with the community (via social media and frequented sites such as community facebook pages) that briefly explains hair clogs and the harmful environmental effect they have on wastewater in a simple and intriguing way. Also include sites for more information and pictures/ bright colors so the graphics are eye-catching. Will try to make it unique so that it doesn't get lost in the hundreds of infographics always circling around.
Aligned Groups — City Council	Keeping Puget Sound Healthy	<b>Email:</b> Write small blurb about my impact project and measures I have taken as well as people I have engaged in order to ensure community impact and email it to city council members to convey the importance of the issue I am addressing in hopes they can further spread the word about it or attempt to address it city level.