

GRINDER STATION SERVICE AND USAGE GUIDE

(Updated October 3, 2024)

Montgomery County Regional Sewer District (MCRSD) has compiled a checklist for grinder station alarms or service issues, and rules to prevent issues with your grinder station and MCRSD treatment system.

Important!

1. You are responsible for any obstruction in your sewer lateral to the grinder station (call a licensed plumber if this is the case).
2. Even if there is no visual or audible grinder station alarm, call service line **(1-866-418-9252)** if toilets don't flush, drains don't drain, and you don't believe the issue is related to a household sewer lateral obstruction.

In Event of a Grinder Station Alarm:

1. Discontinue water use to prevent overflows.
2. Silence alarm by pressing the "silence" button on the bottom of the control panel box (the light will remain on).
3. If you have a sewer "clean out", you can check it to see if water is overflowing or near the top. If so, your sewer lateral might have a clog that will require you to call a plumber to rectify.
4. **Wait fifteen (15) minutes before taking further action.** A high-water alarm might briefly activate if you are draining a large spa tub or other appliance at a rate high enough to temporarily overwhelm the grinder station pump. If the alarm turns off, there is no need to call MCRSD for service.
5. Call MCRSD service line at **1-866-418-9252** if you are still having issues with your grinder station. MCRSD will respond to rectify your grinder station problem. Evening calls might require a response the following morning, so it is important to conserve water prior to a service call response.
6. MCRSD has an Access Easement to each grinder station. **Please make sure you or your neighbors aren't obstructing MCRSD's ability to service your grinder station.** MCRSD has legal authority to tow vehicles and remove improvements obstructing grinder station access.



Alarm Silence Button

Proper Grinder Station Usage:

Never pour the following items down your drains or flush them in the toilet:

1. **Cooking Fat (Oil, Grease, or Lard)**
2. **Disposable Wipes (including those that state "Flushable" or "Biodegradable")**
3. Metal, Plastic, or Latex objects (Feminine Products, Toys, Utensils, Condoms, etc.)

4. Diapers, Socks, Rags, Sanitary Napkins, or Cloth of any kind
5. **Seafood Shells, Cat Litter, or Animal Bones**
6. Degreasing Solvents
7. Lubricating Oil or Grease
8. Gasoline, Kerosine, Fuel Oil, Paint Thinners, or Antifreeze
9. Biohazardous Material
10. Any Strong Chemical or Toxic, Caustic, or Poisonous Substance
11. Any Explosive or Flammable Material