

# Grinder Pump Facts

## About establishing service...

...After signing up for service, the customer will meet with AUB's wastewater foreman regarding the grinder pump installation. The homeowner must run 220 volt power to the outside of the house where the pump will be installed (tell the electrician this must be 10-3 wire with a ground). A disconnect box, which will be supplied by AUB's sewer foreman, must also be installed by the homeowner about 4 feet high on the home's exterior, with approximately 2 feet of wire past the box left over (this is for AUB to use to install the pump's control panel).

...A grinder pump cannot be installed before permanent electric power is turned on for the home.

## After installation...

...The Athens Sewer Use Ordinance prohibits users from causing interference or obstruction to AUB's wastewater system, which includes grinder pumps. Never put anything into sinks, toilets, or drains that could obstruct or interfere with the operation of the grinder pump. You could be responsible for reimbursing AUB for repairs. The following are some common materials that are known to cause harm to grinder pumps;

- Glass, metal, wood, seafood shells, diapers, socks, rags, or cloth of any kind.
- Plastic objects (toys, eating utensils, etc.)
- Toxic or corrosive chemicals, solvents or degreasing chemicals.
- Gasoline, kerosene, fuel oil, paint thinner.
- Antifreeze, lubricating oil, or grease.
- Cooking fat (lard, oil, grease)
- Cat litter, aquarium gravel.

...When problems do occur with the grinder pump system, an audible alarm will sound and an alarm light will illuminate on the control panel. Here's what to do:

- 1) You must discontinue water use to prevent overflows and sewage backups into your home.
- 2) Call AUB at (423) 745-4501 and an AUB employee will come to your house and investigate the problem.

...During power failures, the grinder pump system will not be able to operate. The tank has some holding capacity, but water use in your home must be severely limited until power has been restored.

...Never allow the lid of the tank unit to be damaged, dislodged, or covered.