



TIPS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Your Efforts To Clear A Drain Don't Have To Be In Vain

(NAPSA)—Plumbing clogs can happen to the best of us. Whether it is in the shower, bathroom sink or kitchen drain, clogs can slowly build up and then stop water from draining altogether.

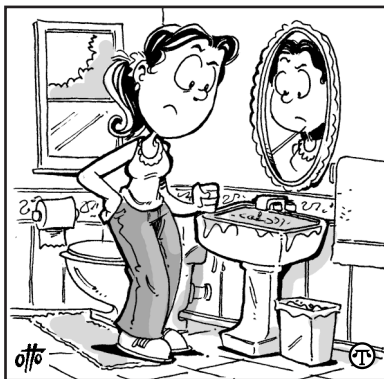
Fortunately, with the right approach, a clogged drain can be free-flowing again.

Clogs can be caused by buildup of hair, soap and oils on pipe walls or occasionally by foreign objects in the pipe.

Bright Winn, member of the Drain Care Council (DCC) and the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling-Contractors-National Association (PHCC), is no stranger to clogs. His team of professionals often responds to this common nuisance.

"Liquid drain openers are a good first line of action for common household clogs," says Winn. "The new generation of formulations are effective and safe for your plumbing. If the problem persists, then it's time to call a professional."

Liquid drain openers that contain less than two percent sodium hydroxide, such as Liquid-Plumr Clog Removers, are safe and effective to use on your pipes, garbage disposals, septic tanks and sinks.



With the right approach, getting rid of clogs doesn't have to be a draining experience.

It is also important to pick a product appropriate for your clog type. For slow-running drains, foaming products deep clean and dissolve hair and gunk. For a fully clogged drain, try a product specifically designated to cut through standing water.

"While it is unlikely you will stop clogs completely, there are steps you can take to prevent slow-running drains from becoming severe problems," says Winn.

Winn recommends flushing drains once a week with warm water and allowing them to drain. Avoid brushing your hair

over the sink and allowing it to wash down the drain. Also, using a liquid drain opener on a monthly basis can be a preventative step to keeping your pipes free-flowing.

There will be instances when the clog will not clear by using a liquid drain opener. When this happens, you should immediately call a licensed plumbing professional.

Hiring a qualified and trustworthy plumber is easy when you know what questions to ask.

PHCC-National Association, formed in 1883, provides education and training to more than 4,000 plumbing, heating and air conditioning contractors. PHCC members pride themselves on quality and service.

When you place your initial call, ask for a current plumber's license and what quality guarantees they provide. Most professional plumbers are very responsive to customer service and will be happy to share this information.

They should also be willing to explain their diagnosis and provide a written estimate at the time of service.

For more information, visit www.draincarecouncil.com.