

# Plumbing Company Facebook Content



## Copy Sample 1

Garbage disposals are practical household appliances, and much better for the environment than throwing food in the garbage. Each American throws out an average of 325 lbs. of food waste in a year, totaling over 120 billion lbs. for the U.S. alone! That all goes straight into landfills, becoming the largest contributor to landfill waste.

Garbage disposals, in contrast, only 1% of household water and a minimal amount of electricity. Food is over 70% water anyway, so there's no harm in sending it through our sewer system. Food waste is shredded by the disposal and run through water treatment plants that repurpose it into energy and fertilizer. Everybody wins!

## Copy Sample 2

Follow these helpful tips to extend the life of your home's garbage disposal!

- Don't overload! Large volumes of food put too much stress on the motor. That can cause it to overheat, tripping the thermal protection switch, which shuts the unit down. Overall, this shortens the life of the disposal.
- Avoid placing rags and other cleaning tools in the sink. They could become tangled in the disposal and may not clear without removal & disassembly.

- Never stick your fingers or hands into the disposal, even when it's not running. The blades are sharp enough to cut you even when the motor is off.

### **Copy Sample 3**

Wipes hurt pipes. That includes those "flushable" wipes that are advertised these days. They seem convenient and cheap...until you're calling a plumber to repair a severe clog in a flooded bathroom.

You see, wipes, Q-tips, cotton balls, and feminine products don't break apart when they're flushed, like toilet paper is designed to do. Instead, they stay solid all the way through the sewer system. If you're lucky, the problem won't occur until these products hit the city wastewater system and cause thousands of dollars in damage that our taxes pay for (yay...). If you aren't so lucky, they'll snag in your own sewage line, and you'll be fronting a hefty bill all on your own.

Remember, only the three Ps get flushed. P number one and P number two are self-explanatory (hint, hint). P number 3 is (toilet) paper. You can make an exception for the occasional pet goldfish, too.

### **Copy Sample 4**

Today is World Environment Day! This global awareness day reminds us that the environment is valuable and worth advocating for and protecting.

Here are a few ways to be an active participant in environmental protection:

- Install energy efficient appliances in your home. This not only reduces your consumption, but also helps you save big on your electric bill.
- Drink filtered tap water instead of bottled water. You'll save hundreds of dollars per year and reduce demand for plastics, which have proven to harm aquatic life.
- Be conscious of what goes down your drains! Properly dispose of harmful chemicals and trash instead of letting them become "someone else's problem." Use sustainable, environmentally friendly products like BioClean when you clean sinks, toilets, and bathtubs.

Do your part to protect our planet—it's the only one we've got!

### **Copy Sample 5**

Today is World Baking Day! This day is celebrated by making delicious baked goods and giving them away to plumbers that you know—errr, people that you know 😊

While you're doing your baking, though, be careful not to put any of these common ingredients down the drain! Otherwise, you could end up with a nasty issue.

- Flour (hardens into a ball)
- Eggshells (stick to other obstructions and make them worse)
- Gelatin (dries and hardens, becoming nearly impossible to remove)
- Sugar & syrup (harden to coat the drain & attract pest)
- Butter (becomes a hard lump that blocks the drain and catches scraps)
- Coffee grounds (harden and become nearly impossible to remove)
- Soft candies (stick to the sides of drains & garbage disposal)
- Stringy produce (tangles into a ball, wraps around garbage disposal)
- Produce stickers (block filters and screens at water treatment plant)
- Nuts & seeds (hard enough to break garbage disposal)

Instead, use this opportunity to start a compost pile! That will save water and result in healthier plants in the long run.

## **Copy Sample 6**

Your sewer cleanout pipe can give you early warning of plumbing issues in your home. By removing the cap to peek inside, you can see if there is any water flowing, overflowing, or standing in the pipe. If there is, you've got a clog, and it's time to call Bay Area Plumbing!

Make sure that you (and any other residents) know where your sewer cleanout is. Usually, it's out in the yard, but sometimes it's in the house. The picture below is a pretty standard example. It's located along the lateral sewer line—the pipe that connects your plumbing to the municipal sewer system. Sometimes they may be hidden under overgrown landscaping that should be cleared away.

Knowing where this pipe is and how to check it can save you hundreds or thousands in repairs. And if you don't have one, our professional plumbers can install one for you.

## **Copy Sample 7**

There are a lot of things you'll be scrambling to find in a plumbing emergency, like towels, a mop, and a phone to call Bay Area Plumbing.

One thing you shouldn't have to scramble for is your water shut-off valve. You can find the valve near your water meter, and it will look a lot like one of the ones pictured below. In Florida homes, it's usually somewhere on the outside of the house, or in a protective box set into the ground.

The first step in any plumbing emergency is to run straight over to the valve and shut it off to stop the flow of water, so make sure that you know right where to find it long before you spring a leak.

## **Copy Sample 8**

May the Fourth be with you! Happy Star Wars Day!

Remember: "Flushable" wipes can severely damage plumbing. Best case scenario, they fly to the heart of city plumbing like a proton torpedo, blowing it up like the Death Star. Worst case scenario, your home will smell like Dagobah once the clogs build up.

## **Copy Sample 9**

"Do it yourself" home improvement is huge these days. With so many great resources available online, some beginner plumbing jobs can definitely be handled on your own. But there are still many times where calling a professional plumber is the safer option. Avoid the potential for injury and big repair bills by calling a plumber if your project...

- Has power going to it.
- Has hot water going to it.
- Hasn't yet had the necessary plumbing fixtures installed.

Professional plumbers have vital experience, proper tools, and the ability to pull any permits needed to do the job right, helping you avoid disaster. If you get in over your head, we're here to help.

## **Copy Sample 10**

Happy Earth Day! 🌍 Conserving our planet's resources benefits us all. Here are some pro plumbing tips to help you do your part:

- Install low flow shower heads & toilets. These reduce the amount of water you use during regular day-to-day activity.
- Sing one fewer song in the shower. Cutting your shower by one or two minutes can save hundreds of gallons of water per person per month.
- Turn off the sink when you brush your teeth. Leaving the water running can waste up to five gallons in just one tooth brushing session.

- Fix leaks ASAP! Here's a quick and easy way to find out if your toilet is leaking: Put a few drops of food coloring in your toilet tank and wait about 20 minutes. If the water in the bowl starts to turn colors, there's a problem.

If you find these useful, check our page tomorrow for even more ways you can take action to conserve water and energy at home.

## Copy Sample 11

Continuing our thoughts from Earth Day 🌍 yesterday: Here are a few more pro plumbing tips to help you conserve water and energy in your home:

- Set up a rain barrel. This summer, Florida will rain, rain, rain. Why not keep some to use? A rain barrel collects and stores water from your downspouts that you can later use for your lawn and garden.
- Composting saves water. Spongy compost is remarkably good at holding water. Compost can be collected from multiple sources: food scraps, yard debris, and even some paper products. Together, these materials stretch your summer watering budget and help your plants develop healthy root systems.
- Turn the temperature down on your water heater. At just ten degrees cooler, you can save over \$100 per year. 120 degrees is the magic number for balancing adequately heated water with energy savings.
- Routinely check your water bill, looking for any spikes. Those could be a sign that there's a leak somewhere—one we'll be happy to help you fix!

Thank you for doing your part!

## Copy Sample 12

Today is National Hug a Plumber Day! 🔧

Plumbers like us have been keeping the water flowing since ancient Rome. We've made possible many of the modern conveniences that get taken for granted each day. Show your appreciation! Hug a plumber today! 😊

"If you consider the contribution of plumbing to human life, the other sciences fade into insignificance." -James P. Gorman

## Copy Sample 13

#FlashbackFriday to the time we helped our friends at the Museum of Science and Industry fix a gnarly leak in their main water line!

It took a lot of digging and an expert repair before we could turn the water back on, backfill, and head off to the next job.

Since then, MOSI has moved to a different building on their campus, providing a more streamlined version of the hands-on, educational experience that science fanatics of all ages love. We'll vouch for their plumbing, too. Check them out!

## **Copy Sample 14**

Tap water or bottled water: which is better?

When it comes to cost, tap water wins hands down. Drinking from the tap can be up to 2000x cheaper than drinking bottled water. Incredible! But what about water quality?

Most people assume that bottled water has less contaminants than tap water, but that's not really true. Modern consumer filters perform comparably to methods used by bottled water plants, with many options available. The packaging will let you know which contaminants are being removed by each, and at what rate. If you follow the manufacturer's instructions for care, the water coming through your filter will be every bit as good as storebought bottles.

Consider ditching bottled water for filtered tap at home. Your wallet will thank you—and so will Planet Earth.

## **Copy Sample 14**

Installing SIX tankless water heaters in one house? That's a job for Superman—or, at least, the supernaturally good plumbers on our team!

Installing one in your home? Piece of cake 😎 Call us at 813-██████ to schedule the job!

And if you're a Tampa Electric customer, be sure to ask about our partnership with them! You can pay for your new, cutting-edge heater with a small monthly payment added to your electric bill.

## **Copy Sample 15**

Buying a home is a BIG commitment. With so much money changing hands, it's in everyone's best interest to do their due diligence in inspecting fixtures and features. Here's your guide to

checking out a house on the market for potential plumbing issues. (Part 1 of 2—click here for part 2: [bit.ly/3PtF983](https://bit.ly/3PtF983))

- We strongly recommend that you hire a professional plumber to perform a camera inspection on the sewer line. Drains clog for a reason which is not always obvious. You can't be sure if the home has had drainage problems, or if the previous homeowner is holding back information about a clog. An experienced plumber can find out if the sewer line is deteriorating, potentially ready to collapse during a repair. Camera inspections are quick and simple and could save you a lot of money down the line..
- The average water heater lasts about 10 years. Nearly all manufacturers can determine the age of a water heater from the model and serial number, and a licensed plumber can determine whether it's up to code and working safely, whether there is any corrosion or calcium buildup, and evaluate whether the heater can meet the needs of the home.
- Homes built prior to 1986 often have lead or galvanized plumbing. It's important to know, because lead pipes are toxic and should be replaced.
- What size are the pipes in and around the home? For water pressure to be adequate, the lines should be  $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 1" from the main water source. The pipes themselves should be at least  $\frac{1}{2}$ " in diameter to ensure proper flow.
- A professional plumber can do a full home inspection and give you a prognosis. Besides peace of mind, information about the home's plumbing can help you during negotiation.

Don't get stuck with a fixer-upper when you're expecting your dream home!

## **Copy Sample 16**

Buying a home is a BIG commitment. With so much money changing hands, it's in everyone's best interest to do their due diligence in inspecting fixtures and features. Here's your guide to checking out a house on the market for potential plumbing issues. PART TWO—Click here for part one: [bit.ly/3Gha4z4](https://bit.ly/3Gha4z4)

- Leaks at the base of the toilet are often neglected. They often appear small and insignificant, but in time, they will rot the floor. Don't try to seal it yourself; this can make it worse. Look for discoloration and/or warping, and use your foot to check if the floor moves or feels soft. The toilet bowl itself should not move at all. If it does, it either has a bad seal, the flange is not secure, or the toilet is not secured to the flange.

- Find the water meter and determine if the shutoff valve to the home's water supply works. If the home uses well water, the shutoff valve could be located inside the home (usually under the kitchen sink).
- Inside, check all of the faucets for leaks and drips. Check for leaking pipes under the sinks. Flush the toilet in each bathroom: they should empty and refill as expected. Turn on the shower in the room farthest from the home's water source, then check the water pressure and temperature.
- Determine the type of sewage system the home is connected to. Does waste go to a municipal sewer system, or is there a septic tank installed? Find out where the septic tank is installed on the property, how much the tank holds, and where the lines to the tank are located. Ideally, you want a map that shows where the tank and all lines are located to be included with the real estate paperwork. You should also ask when it was last emptied or serviced. Look for signs of seepage around the area where the tank is located, as well as standing water and noticeable odors. These are all signs of a problem, and septic tanks can be very expensive to repair/replace

## **Copy Sample 17**

Hotels and other commercial enterprises who depend on reliable plumbing to serve your customers, take note!

For nearly thirty years, Bay Area Plumbing has been Tampa Bay's most-trusted plumbing company. Our plumbers are qualified and quick, making the fixes you need on-time so you can stop worrying about your pipes and get back to focusing on your customers.

Call 813-██████ to find out how you can start a business relationship with our top-ranked plumbing service!

## **Copy Sample 18**

Here's a cool little plumbing moment we wanted to share with you, from a job we did in Land o' Lakes a few years back.

This is a lift station. When pipes run too deep underground, or the elevation is too low, a lift station is installed to raise wastewater back up to a level where it can continue to flow with gravity.

The first picture shows the lift station before it was drained of all sewage and waste water from the building. The second is the station after it has been emptied.



Before our plumber could go in and replace the two pumps for the client, he has to pump fresh air into the hole and use a detector to check for poisonous gas. He wears that respirator throughout the job to make extra sure he's not breathing anything toxic. Without these precautions, a lift station job can be extremely dangerous!

## **Copy Sample 19**

Is your water heater more than ten years old? Is your shower not as hot as it used to be, or taking a while to warm up? These are all signs that it's time for a replacement.

Bay Area Plumbing is proud to be a Peoples Gas Preferred Provider. If you're already a TECO gas customer, you may be eligible for an incremental payment plan on a 30-40 gallon gas water heater. Pay just \$15.99/month for 60 months, interest-free, as part of your regular monthly statement. We'll handle removal, disposal, and installation of the appliance and necessary fixtures at no extra cost to you.

Call us at 813-██████ to get more information. We'll handle program approval and install a variety of top-notch water heater brands that will take your family from shivering to celebrating!

Find leaks before they turn into face-spraying catastrophes! If you're worried that a pipe or fixture in your home has an issue, our experienced, professional plumbers can put your mind at ease. They'll see things you won't and make fixes quickly—and for a great price!

You know who to call: 813-██████

## **Copy Sample 20**

Start-to-finish look at the installation of a new backflow! We replaced the original green one with the new blue one. A beautiful job done by our capable plumbers!

You probably see a system like this around town all the time, but you may not know why they are so important. The backflow preventer is a device that prevents your water system from becoming contaminated by water flowing backwards into your supply lines.

This device effectively creates a closed plumbing system. Once a backflow preventer is installed, water is unable to flow back into the public supply lines, protecting us all. Remember to call us in to check on your backflow bi-annually, according to FL law!

## **Copy Sample 21**

Are you ready to make the switch to natural gas? Stoves, washers, dryers, and water heaters are all available as high-performing gas appliances. If you're a TECO customer and you're installing multiple devices in your home, we've got you covered as a Preferred Provider.

The cost of materials and labor related to installing interior piping can be billed incrementally with your regular Peoples Gas monthly statement. The price of some appliances is even eligible to be part of this payment plan.

Natural gas saves you money and keeps your home running, even when the power is out. Call us at 813-620-0044 to find out how Tampa Electric and Bay Area Plumbing can make switching to gas an affordable option for you!

## **Copy Sample 22**

Meteorological experts are predicting a harsh winter across the US this year, even here (thanks, El Nino). As Floridians, we hear that and sneer: "How bad could it be?" Even one freeze is enough to cause damage to your plumbing, though, so reasonable precautions are a wise way to avoid costly repairs.

Here are some smart tips to help you prepare for potential freezing temperatures in the Sunshine State:

- Have a professional inspect your pipes in a yearly maintenance check. Florida pipes aren't usually buried very far underground and aren't insulated against freezing. If there's an existing issue, freezing will magnify it. A professional knows what to look for and can repair any leaks.
- Wrap your pipes. If the weatherman sends word that a freeze is coming, wrap your pipes in towels, or slip insulation sheaths over them. Homeowners in northern climes are used to this ritual.
- Let your faucets drip. If freezing temperatures occur, you can keep the water in your pipes moving by allowing for a small drip from your faucets around the house.
- Tend to your outdoor spigots. If you have a hose in the yard, unhook it if cold weather is on its way. The water in the hose will expand when it freezes, causing damage to the supply pipe. Similarly, if you have outdoor faucets, shut off their water supply and drain any remaining water.
- Check your sump pump. Many Florida homes have them to help with flooding from storms. If you have one, give it an inspection and a thorough cleaning. If you don't, it could freeze and flood.

If you have any other questions or concerns about the affect cold weather can have on your Florida home, you know who to call! Bay Area Plumbing can help you with all of this and more. Call 813-620-0044!

### **Copy Sample 23**

We've been showing up for Tampa Bay on Brown Friday since the '90s. We're number one! Don't get stuck dealing with number two.

Call us if you need us!

813-620-0044

### **Copy Sample 24**

Are you the host of a large Thanksgiving celebration, about to have a crowd of guests putting extra burden on your home plumbing? We've got a few tips that will help you avoid an overload—and the damage that may come with it. Give them a read before your Turkey Day festivities begin!

- Most Thanksgiving foods are high in oil and fat. Don't let it go down your drain! Even liquid fat can congeal in time, coating the walls of your pipes and causing a clog. Instead, wipe the grease out of your pots and pans before washing.
- Poultry skin & bones, carrot & potato peels, celery, pumpkin pulp, egg shells...all of the stringy, fibrous waste that comes from preparing a holiday dinner cannot be sufficiently ground by your garbage disposal and may cause a nasty clog. While you cook, it might be best to pretend you don't have one and stick to a good old fashioned trash can.
- If you do end up using your garbage disposal, run some cold water down the drain for about 15 seconds before and after using it to make sure that you fully flush scraps.
- And don't overwork your garbage disposal! There'll be a lot more kitchen activity than usual around the holidays, so space things out and use alternate modes of waste disposal, like the trash or compost.
- You know not to flush anything but toilet paper down your toilet, but has Grandma heard? Politely inform your guests of the house rules that keep your pipes clear.

Lay down ground rules ahead of time and make sure that you—and your guests—know what not to do. That's the recipe to successfully navigating holiday celebrations!

## **Copy Sample 25**

In addition to the main water shut-off valve near your water meter, most modern houses have small, localized shut-off valves installed on the supply lines for things like toilets, faucets, dishwashers, water heaters, and washing machines.

These are called fixture supply stops, and they usually have a small, roundish handle. You can shut off the flow of water to that fixture with just 2-4 clockwise turns—remember, "lefty loosey, righty tighty."

These are a great improvement over the old days, when shut-off knobs were only found on toilets. Back then, if a faucet was leaking, nobody got to shower or flush!

If you're missing fixture supply stops in some parts of your house, they can be easily added the next time you shut the water off to make a repair. Just make sure that they're easy to reach, especially in a plumbing emergency!

## **Copy Sample 26**

Tampa Bay has hard water—water with a much higher concentration of minerals dissolved in it than soft water. It's not unhealthy, but it can be a nuisance over time. Glassware will fade, becoming cloudy. Solid mineral buildup will occur in your water heater, shower head, and even coffee maker. That buildup can reduce the life of your equipment if it gets out of control.

Drinking hard water has some health benefits for those who have mineral deficiencies, but some people are put off by the taste and feel. Similarly, hard and soft water leave skin with different sensations after showering or washing hands.

Bay Area Plumbing can help you find a water filtration system that balances all of these preferences and quirks—one that suits your family's needs. Call today and speak to an expert!

## **Copy Sample 27**

We often forget about our garbage disposal. It's there when we need it, but it's under the sink—out of sight, out of mind. Remember to maintain this essential household appliance with these helpful tips:

- Don't turn the disposal off until every scrap is ground and flushed down the drain. Allowing partially-ground scraps to enter your plumbing can clog your pipes.
- To clean the blades, grind ice and water. To deodorize, add vinegar or a lemon along with cold water.

- Keep an eye out for leaks under your sink. The vibrations from the motor can cause pipes to come loose and seals to break.

## **Copy Sample 28**

Wanna hear a cool dishwasher trick?

Run some hot water down your kitchen sink drain before starting up your dishwasher. This hack starts the washer at a higher water temperature, reducing cycle time and resulting in cleaner dishes. The perfect temperature is 120°. Don't go too hot, though; that could negatively affect the active chemicals in your detergent, making some food residue harder to remove.