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## From Plumbing Pro to Holiday Hero: Plumbers Save the Day

**WACO, Texas (Dec. 17, 2009)** – If it's not a clogged kitchen sink, it's an overflowing toilet. Or perhaps, it's a jammed garbage disposal. Regardless, plumbers walk away from the holidays as heroes.

While it ends with a frantic call to the plumber during the holiday feast or unwrapping of the presents, it usually starts with a backed-up drain *before* all the guests arrive.

"Once a home has a clogged main sewer line, it affects every other plumbing fixture in your house," said Mary Kennedy Thompson, president of Mr. Rooter Corporation. "Everything can back up – the shower, the tub, the kitchen sink."

A plunger won't always work on this big of a clog, so homeowners turn to a professional. That's when plumbing pros turn into holiday heroes. Year in and year out, plumbers spend their holidays unclogging drains and repairing garbage disposals.

With homes full of guests, kitchens and bathrooms are busier than usual. This leads to more leftovers going down the garbage disposal and extra showers, which then leads to more clogged drains.

"Guests put an added strain on the home's plumbing," Thompson said. "We recommend homeowners check their plumbing a week or two before the holidays. This way, we can find and fix any problems before their family and friends arrive."

*Mr. Rooter* Plumbing technicians have some suggestions to help homeowners survive the holidays without any plumbing challenges.

In the kitchen:

- Avoid pouring grease down the drain
- Don't overload the garbage disposal
- Throw scraps in the trash or a compost pile
- Don't put turkey bones, skin, potato peels and celery down the disposal
- Remove excess residue from greasy pans and plates before washing them
- Don't operate the dishwasher if there's a problem because it discharges into the disposal
- Turn disposal power off and press re-set button under sink (if available) if the disposal abruptly stops.

In the bathroom:

- Wait ten minutes between showers
- Don't flush cotton balls, paper towels, facial tissue and sanitary products
- Know how to use the water shut-off valve behind the tank in case of an emergency
- Remove small objects from the top of the toilet tank that could fall in, causing it to clog.

### **About Mr. Rooter®:**

Established in 1970, *Mr. Rooter* is an all-franchised, full-service plumbing and drain cleaning with approximately 300 franchises worldwide. Recognized by Entrepreneur magazine among its Franchise 500 and Franchise Times Top 200, *Mr. Rooter* franchisees provide services to both residential and commercial customers. *Mr. Rooter* began franchising in 1974 and is a subsidiary of The Dwyer Group, Inc. For more information or to find the location nearest you, please visit our Web site at [www.mrrooter.com](http://www.mrrooter.com).

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