

FOG

Fats, Oils, and Grease

What's the problem?

Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) come from meats, butters, food scraps, sauces, dressings, dairy products and cooking oil. When FOG goes down the drain it hardens and will cause the sewer pipes to clog.



Commercial additives, including detergents, that claim to dissolve grease only pass grease down the line and cause problems in other areas.

The hardened grease can lead to a Sanitary Sewer

Overflow (SSO) where raw sewage actually backs up into your home, lawn, neighborhood and streets. The cleanup is expensive and unpleasant.

Not only does this nasty mess increase the potential for risks to public health, it can also run into a nearby stream or river.

Keeping the grease out of the sewer pipes will help you, your community, and help your public utility keep operation and maintenance costs down.



Implications

- Raw sewage backing up into your home.
- A call for a plumber.
- An unpleasant and expensive cleanup at your expense.
- Raw sewage overflowing into parks, yards and streets.
- Potential contact with disease-causing organisms.
- Increased cost for your public utility which may result in higher sewer bills for customers.

Who should I call if I see a sewer overflow?

Call us first.

We are a 24/7 operation with staff on duty at all times. If you have a back up on your property or see an overflow occurring in your area please call us at

540-434-9959

We will dispatch a team to the problem area who will make a determination as to the source of the problem.

What can you do?

The easiest way to solve the grease problem and help prevent overflows of raw sewage is to keep this material out of the sewer system in the first place.



Don't pour cooking oil or grease down the kitchen sink, garbage disposal, toilet, or any other drain in your home.



TIPS

In the Kitchen

- ◆ Don't put grease, fats, or oil of any type down your drain or garbage disposal.
- ◆ Before washing pots, pans, and dishes, scrape leftover food and sauces from plates and utensils into the trash.
- ◆ Use baskets or strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids and empty them into the trash.
- ◆ Pour or scrape cooled cooking oil and grease into a can/container, then seal and discard with your regular garbage.



In the Bathroom

"Think trash not toilets"

Flushing the wrong thing down the toilet damages your household plumbing, your environment and the wastewater treatment system.

If it isn't biodegradable, put it in the trash instead of the toilet.

These items belong in the trash:

- Band-aids
- Cleaning wipes
- Condoms
- Cotton balls, swabs & pads
- Dental floss



Remember, prevention is the key.