



Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) and Sewer Backups

WHAT IS FOG?

FOG is fats, oils and grease that can build up in sewer lines. When grease is washed down the sink or toilet it coats and sticks to the inside of sewer pipes.

WHY IS FOG A PROBLEM?

Sewer pipes can become clogged by FOG and cause backups into basements, roadways, and water bodies. Sewer backups create health hazards, can result in expensive property damage, and threaten the environment.



Grease clog in a sewer pipe

WHERE DOES FOG COME FROM?

- Meat Fats (bacon, sausage)
- Lard
- Cooking Oil
- Butter or margarine
- Food scraps
- Baking products
- Milk, ice cream, yogurt, sour cream
- Cream based sauces
- Salad dressings, cheeses, mayonnaise

Keep these foods out of all drains!

WHAT CAN I DO TO PREVENT SEWER BACKUPS?

NEVER pour grease down sink drains or toilets.



Dispose of cooled cooking fats, oils and grease into a waxed food container such as a milk carton or container with a lid and dispose of it in the garbage.

Minimize the use of your garbage disposal. Foods containing FOG can get caught in the plumbing and cause sewer backups.

Use baskets or strainers in sinks to catch food scraps. Empty scraps into the trash can.



Scrape food scraps from dishes and pans into the trash can for disposal, before washing.

DO NOT use the toilet for disposal of food scraps, sanitary items, rags, cloths, or towels.

DID YOU KNOW?

Liquid dish detergents that claim to dissolve grease may actually pass grease down the sewer line, which could cause a sewer backup. It is important to scrape grease off all dishes.

PREVENTING SEWER BACKUPS PROTECTS PUBLIC HEALTH, THE ENVIRONMENT AND SAVES EVERYONE MONEY.

- Grease related blockages can:
 - Cause the sewer to backup into your home through sinks, drains and toilets.
 - Cause backup of sewer into streets, parks, yards and waterways causing a public health risk and environmental concern.



Avoid Sewer Backups in Your Home!

- Raw sewage contains disease causing organisms that can be harmful to children, adults, and pets.
- Clean up and repairs for damage caused by sewer backups are expensive, unhealthy, and unpleasant.
- FOG related grease blockages increase the Commission's operation and maintenance costs resulting in higher sewer bills for all.

HELP US CEASE THE GREASE!

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