

WATER UTILITIES

RESIDENTIAL FAT, OIL AND GREASE The Number One Cause of Sewer Backups in Homes

F.O.G. stands for
Fats, **O**il, and **G**rease.

About 30% of what
we eat is F.O.G.!

F.O.G. can block your
drains *and* your
neighbor's drains.



F.O.G. is the cause of
most sewer line
blockages.

Blocked drains and
sewers create health
hazards, make life
miserable, and are
expensive to remedy.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Even a small amount of grease in sink drains can cause sewage backups and overflows that are messy, costly, and a potential threat to your health and the environment.

HOW CAN YOU HAVE FAT-FREE SEWERS?

- Never pour fat, oil or grease down sink drains or toilets!
- Wipe dishes and pots and pans prior to washing.
- Talk with your friends and neighbors about the grease problem so the community is aware of the risk.

MINIMIZE YOUR RESIDENTIAL GREASE BY FOLLOWING THESE SIMPLE STEPS...

Step 1: All cooking oil should be poured into an old milk carton, frozen juice container or other non-recyclable package, to be disposed of in the garbage.

Step 2: Dishes, pots and pans that are coated with greasy leftovers should be wiped clean with a disposable towel prior to washing or placement in dishwashers.

Step 3: Instead of putting fat trimmings or drippings from meat in the garbage disposal, put them in a trashcan.

Always put cooking grease containers and greasy towels in a plastic bag before disposing of them in your trash container.

WHERE DOES RESIDENTIAL GREASE COME FROM?

Grease is a by-product of cooking and is found in things like these:

Meat fats	Food scraps	Pastries
Butter & margarine	Baking goods	Salad dressings
Cooking oil	Sauces	Deep-fried foods
Shortening	Dairy Products	Gravy

Household fats and grease washed down the kitchen sink can stick to the interior of sewer pipes (both on your property and in the streets)...and just like FOG from commercial kitchens, the grease can build up and block the entire pipe. The results can be:

- Raw sewage overflowing in your home or your neighbor's home;
- An expensive and unpleasant cleanup that often must be paid for by you, the homeowner;
- Raw sewage overflowing into parks, yards, and streets;
- Potential contact with disease-causing organisms; and
- An increase in operation and maintenance costs for the City of Oceanside sewer department, which causes higher sewer bills for customers.