

# Fats, Oils & Grease (FOG)

## Helping To Prevent Sewer Overflows and Backups Is Easy.

#### Where Does the Grease Come From?



Fats, Oils & Grease come from cooking meat fats, lard, oils, shortening butter, margarine, food scraps, baked goods sauces, and dairy products. When

washed down the sink grease sticks to the insides of sewer pipes. Over time the grease can build up and block entire portions of your home plumbing and the City's sewer lines.

#### The results can be:

- Raw sewage overflowing into your home or the house next door.
- An expensive & unpleasant cleanup often required to be paid for by you, the home or business owner.
- Raw sewage overflowing into parks, yards, streets, streams and bayous.
- Potential contact with disease causing organisms.
- An increase in operation and maintenance costs for the sewer department, which causes higher sewer bills for you the customer.





### You Can Help!

#### Help prevent sewer overflows by:

- Never pour grease or oils down sinks or drains.
- Scrape grease and food scraps into a can or trash can.
- Putting baskets/ strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids, and then emptying them into the trash.
- Speaking with your friends and neighbors about how to keep grease out of sewers.



YES

### Fats, oils, and grease aren't just bad for arteries and waistlines; they're bad for sewers, too.

 Sewer overflows and backups can cause health hazards, damage home interiors, and threaten the environment. A common cause of overflows is sewer pipes blocked by grease. Grease gets into the sewer from household drains, as well as from poorly maintained grease traps in restaurants and other businesses.

**Caution:** Grease traps or interceptors at restaurants, large buildings, and other commercial establishments must be properly designed to handle the amount of grease that is expected, be installed correctly and be cleaned and serviced on a frequent basis.