

Fats, Oils And Grease Fact Sheet

SCRAPE IT, DON'T GRIND IT

Avoid costly sewer blockage repairs and clean ups. Do your part to keep sewer lines grease-free and treatment costs low.



The Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Program is designed to provide customers with the tools and knowledge to help prevent clogged pipes in their home or business, or in public sewer mains. Some common FOG items include cooking oils, condiments such as salad dressings and sandwich spreads, meat juices, and cooking fats.

When FOG substances are poured down drains and garbage disposals, they solidify as a sticky film in sewer lines. This sticky film catches food and other solid debris washed down the sewer lines. Over time, the film and debris builds up until water flow is completely blocked, causing sewage backups into homes or businesses through sinks, drains, and toilets.

Any sewer backups or problems that occur on the customer's property, up to and including the point of connection with the public sewer main, are the responsibility of the property owner to repair. Backups in the public sewer mains are called Sanitary Sewer Blockages, which can lead to Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) that can create serious public health hazards and damage property.

Every day, the Fresno-Clovis Regional Wastewater Reclamation Facility receives over 70 million gallons of wastewater and sewage that must be treated to a level that is safe for environmental reuse. The more food, chemicals, and other substances sent down the drain, the more expensive it is to treat the wastewater.

To avoid sewer blockages and increased treatment costs, FOG substances should NEVER be put down the drain. Kitchen greases should be placed in a jar or other closed container and placed in the trash. Leftover food should be scraped into the trash, not down the garbage disposal.

Do your part to help keep sewer lines clean and treatment costs down. Remember to always **SCRAPE IT, DON'T GRIND IT.**

Helpful Hints to Avoid Backups:

- Scrape food residue from plates, pots, and pans before washing
- Never put eggshells, coffee grounds, or kitty litter down the drain or toilet
- Use your garbage disposal sparingly
- Place vegetables and fruit peels in the gray cart
- Collect excess fats and oils in a sealed container and place in the gray cart
- Dispose of used motor oil properly at approved recycling centers