





Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Control Program

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| <p>What is this Program?</p> | <p>The Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Control Program is designed to reduce the number of sewer pipe blockages and related overflows by educating residents about properly disposing of fats, oils and grease.</p> |
| <p>What food items are considered fats, oils and grease?</p> | <p>Fats, oils and grease are natural by-products of the cooking and food preparation process. Common sources include food scraps, meat fats, cooking oils, lard, baked goods, salad dressings, sauces, marinades, dairy products, shortening, butter and margarine.</p> |
| <p>Why is it important to properly dispose of fats, oils and grease?</p> | <p>Preventing grease-related sewer blockages and overflows benefits your home, your pocketbook and the environment.</p> <p>The build up of fats, oils and grease in the sewer system eventually results in sewer backups that can overflow onto streets and even into homes, damaging properties, and the environment. Approximately 80 percent of grease-related sewer blockages and overflows occur in residential areas.</p> <p>Sewer system maintenance in neighborhoods that experience sewer blockages due to fats, oils and grease is expensive and can contribute to the amount customers pay for sewer service.</p> |
| <p>What are the proper methods for disposing fats, oils and grease in the kitchen?</p> | <p>Proper disposal is easy!</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fats, oils and grease should never be poured down the sink. Sink drains and garbage disposals are not designed to properly handle these materials. 2. Before washing, scrape and dry wipe pots, pans and dishes with paper towels and dispose of materials in the trash. 3. Pour fats, oils and grease after it has cooled into a container, such as an empty glass jar or coffee can. Once the container is full, secure the lid and place it in the trash. For large volumes, contact your local agency for recycling options. 4. Use sink strainers to catch food items, then empty the strainer into the trash.  |
| <p>Now I understand that grease is a problem but are paper towels and disposable wipes okay to dispose of down the drain?</p> | <p>Paper towels, disposable wipes, and disposable toilet bowl scrubs do not break down easily like toilet paper and do not belong in the sewer system. The same properties that make paper towels valuable for household cleanup tasks create problems in the sewer system. Paper towels, disposable wipes, and disposable toilet bowl scrubs should be disposed of into waste containers. When these items are flushed down the drain they will become caught on any root or imperfection in the sewer line, and, eventually, cause a blockage in the sewer system.</p> |
| <p>How can I get more information?</p> | <p>For more information about the Fats, Oils and Greases Control Program, please visit www.stoptheclog.com or contact:</p> <p>City of Calistoga (707) 942 - 2828</p>  |

The information in this fact sheet and at stoptheclog.com was created by Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District.