



FOG Fact:

Residents make the biggest difference when it comes to reducing sewer backups and spills.

Did You Know?
 The homeowner is responsible for the sewer lateral from the home to the main in the street.

FOG CLOGS

Sewer Smart Facts

1. US EPA shows that 65% of all sewer spills are FOG-related.
2. The majority of FOG-related sewer backups and spills originate in residential areas.
3. Clogged sewer pipes can cost you lots of money and inconvenience if your sewer system backs up on your property.

DON'T LET YOUR SEWER TURN ON YOU OR YOUR NEIGHBORS



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FOG Q&A

Q. What is FOG?

A. Fats, oils, and grease from packaged foods and food scraps.

Q. Where does it come from?

A. Meat fats and juices, lard, cooking oil, shortening, butter, margarine, food scraps, baking goods, olive oil, dressing, sauces, and dairy products.

Q. Why shouldn't fats, oils, and grease go down the drain?

A. Fats, oils, and grease stick to the insides of sewer pipes when washed down the kitchen plumbing system. This solidifies and can block pipes. Clogged pipes cause sewer backups and sewage spills on residential property and on the street.

FOG = Fats, Oils, & Grease

Q. What can I do?

A. Here are some Do's and Don'ts to keep fats, oils, and grease out of our sewer system.

Do:

-Wipe down greasy pots and pans with a dry paper towel and dispose of it in your kitchen scrap recycling or garbage.

-Pour cooled oil, fats, and grease into a can or other container with a tight lid and dispose of it in the garbage.

Don't:

-Do not use hot water to wash the grease down the drain.

-Use baskets or strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids - and dispose of them in the trash.

FOG Fact:

Never put grease, oils, or fats down your drain. Oils and fats can be disposed of in your regular trash.

Allow hot oils to cool, and put them into a can or container before placing into the trash.

Q. How does it affect me?

A. Improper FOG disposal leads to costly sewer backups and overflows, increased sewer rates, and public health and environmental hazards as it washes down storm drains and into waterways.

Q. What are businesses doing?

A. FOG is discharged not only by residents, but also by businesses. Food handling establishments are required to install and maintain grease traps or interceptors and have a management plan in place to prevent FOG discharge. Working together, we can all help prevent clogging and sanitary sewer overflows and protect our environment.

