



What is FOG?

FOG is an acronym for Fats, Oil and Grease. When FOG enters into the sanitary sewer system, it can harden in the pipes and cause blockages resulting in Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs), which is when raw sewage from manholes runs onto the ground. FOG also reduces the capacity of the system and is detrimental to the wastewater treatment process. The result is that considerable money is spent every year removing the FOG. Minimizing FOG is the right thing to do for our environment. In 2003, Texas passed a new State law to address Sanitary Sewer Overflows caused by FOG. House Bill 1979 requires Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) to implement measures that reduce FOG related SSOs.

Where Does it Go?

Wastewater from the toilet, kitchen sink, janitor mop sink, dishwasher, and kitchen floor drain travels through the sewer lines to the wastewater treatment plant where the wastewater is treated and disinfected before it is released to US Waters, as keeping our lakes and rivers clean is very important. Wastewater discharges in food service establishments that contain FOG shall be directed only to drains leading to the sanitary sewer through a grease trap, and all grease traps shall be maintained and cleaned on a regular schedule and in accordance with SJRA Grease Order.

For Information Please Contact



2455 Lake Robbins Dr
The Woodlands TX 77380
281.367.1271

www.WJPA.org



San Jacinto River Authority
Woodlands Division
2436 Sawdust Rd. The Woodlands, TX 77380
281-367-9511

www.SJRA.net/woodlands



Fats, Oil, and Grease



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Let's Tackle the Grease in This Residential Kitchen!



Help Stop Fats, Oil and Grease From Entering Your Sanitary Sewer System and the Environment



DO!



Put used oil and grease in covered containers for proper disposal.

Scrape food scraps from dishes into trash cans and garbage bags and dispose of properly. Avoid using your garbage disposal.



Remove oil and grease from dishes, pans, fryers, and griddles and place in a container for proper disposal. Cool first before you skim, scrape, or wipe off excess grease.



Rinse dishes and pans with cold water before putting them in the dishwasher.



Cover kitchen sink with catch basket and empty debris into garbage can as needed.



Why should I help?



- Prevent grease buildups from blocking sewer lines.
- Stop sewer overflows into yards, streets, and storm drains.
- Avoid spending money on costly cleanups of sewage spills and regulatory fines.
- Reduce the number of times you have to clean your pipes.
- Protect the quality of our water.
- Reduce cost of grease removal from sewer system.

More Ways to Tackle Grease

Use environmentally safe cleaning products instead of harsh detergents or cleaners that can damage sewer lines.

If you generate large amounts of used cooking oil, reuse or recycle it. To find a recycler, check the phone book under "recyclers" or "rendering companies."

If you generate small amounts of used cooking oil, reuse it as often as possible and then pour it into a disposal container. Never pour it down the drain.

Start a compost pile at your home with scraps that are not meat. Find out about composting in the TCEQ publication, "A Green Guide to Yard Care."

DON'T!



Don't pour oil and grease down the drain.



Don't put food scraps down the drain.



Don't run water over dishes, pans, fryers, and griddles to wash oil and grease down the drain.



Don't rinse off oil and grease with hot water.

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