

Police Your Grease

What's the Problem?

Fats, oils, and greases (FOGs) aren't just bad for your arteries; they're also bad for your home's plumbing, city sewer pipes, LOTT's sewer system, and home septic. When poured down sink drains, FOGs harden and stick to pipe walls, where they can cause clogs. Even if washed down with hot water and dish soap, FOGs quickly cool down and become solid.



Fats, oils, and greases can coat and clog pipes, usually within 25 feet of your drain, and cause your sewer line to backup into your home resulting in expensive cleanup and repair costs. Buildup in your pipes also creates gases that can break down pipes, leading to cracks that require repair. FOGs cause problems further down the sewer line too, backing up sewage into streets, creating a public health risk. FOGs that make their way to the wastewater treatment plant can disrupt the treatment process and cause equipment problems. If you are on a septic system, FOGs can clog your pipes or drainfield, leading to failure and costly repairs.

What Counts as FOGs?

- meat fats
- margarine and butter
- gravy and sauces
- salad dressings
- cooking oil
- mayonnaise
- shortening and lard
- dairy products

Help Prevent FOG Clogs

- Scrape fats, oils, and greases into an empty can, cover, and store in the freezer
- Place full cans in a plastic bag and toss into the trash
- Before washing greasy pans and dishes, wipe them with a paper towel
- Throw greasy paper towels and any oily food scraps into your organics collection container if you have one or, if not, into the trash



Get a FOG Kit

Use LOTT's FOG Kit to Police the Grease and protect your pipes. Don't have a kit? Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater sewer customers can call (360) 664-2333 to receive a free kit by mail. The FOG Kit includes:

- A reusable lid that fits most tuna, pet food, or other standard-size cans
- A scraper to transfer grease from the pan to the can

Got a Lot of FOG?

Thurston County now offers free residential cooking oil recycling at HazoHouse. Residents can bring their used cooking oil, including large quantities from turkey deep fryers, to HazoHouse, located at the Thurston County Waste and Recovery Center, 2418 Hogum Bay Road NE in Lacey. For more information, call (360) 357-2491.

Thanks for helping keep our sewers fat-free!
For more information about LOTT programs, visit
www.lottonline.org, or call (360) 664-2333.