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Fats

Oils

Grease

Fats, oils, and grease from food cause problems in the sanitary sewer system. The grease usually enters the sewer through the kitchen sink. Grease sticks to the insides of sewer pipes (both on your property and in the streets). Over time, the grease can build up and block the entire pipe. Garbage disposals do not keep grease out of the plumbing system. These units only shred solid material into smaller pieces and do not prevent grease from going down the drain.



MYTH

Running hot water down the drain will prevent grease from clogging pipes.

FACT

The ground surrounding the pipe keeps the pipe cool, allowing the fat to solidify and cling to the wall of the pipe.

Grease can be found in:

Meat fats	Cooking oil	Lard	Baking goods
Shortening	Sauces	Butter and margarine	Dairy products

**Sewer blockages can cause:
Sewage backups in homes
Costly cleaning and maintenance
Water pollution**



What can YOU do to help?

The easiest way to solve the grease problem and help prevent overflows of raw sewage is to keep this material out of the sewer system in the first place. Here are several ways to do this.

- Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets.
- Scrape grease and food scraps from plates, pots, and utensils into the trash for disposal.
- Pour fats, oils and grease into a container such as an empty jar or coffee can. Allow material to cool and solidify. Secure the lid and place in the trash when full.