



Keep Fog (Fats, Oils and Grease) Out of the Drain This Holiday Season

The Public Works Environmental Division asks residents to keep Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) out of the drain this holiday season. Improperly disposed FOG can harm the environment by creating sewer system overflows in the city sanitary sewer mains and homeowner service lines that may cause property damage. There are many obvious sources that come to mind, such as turkey fryer grease, salad dressing, dairy products, cooking oil and cooking grease. By following these 5 easy tips for FOG, you can avoid costly and messy sewer backups during the holidays.

1. Scrape uneaten food, sauces and dairy products into the trash before washing dishes or placing them in the dishwasher.
2. Wipe greasy pans and dishes out with paper towels or coffee filters before washing them in the sink.
3. Make a bowl out of aluminum foil and drain grease from beef, bacon or other meats into the foil (use an actual bowl to form it, if needed). Pinch the top of the foil together with the liquid grease in it and wait until it hardens, then simply throw it into the trash.
4. Carefully pour cooled grease into a jar or can and let it cool completely to a solid form and throw in your trash container.
5. Dispose of turkey fryer grease back into the container once it has cooled and throw container into the trash.

Homeowners are responsible for the sewer pipe from their homes to the sewer main. Clogs in the pipe are costly to clear, especially during the holidays, weekends and after hours. By properly disposing of FOG, you can avoid the headache and expense of dealing with a sewer back up, and instead enjoy spending time with your family.