

Preventing Sewer Backups

FOG: Fats, Oils and Grease



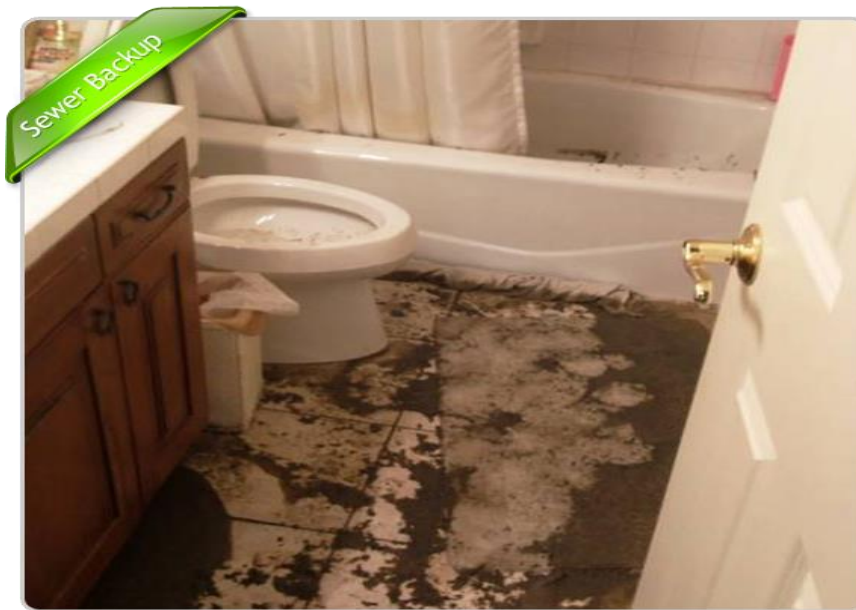
Presented by:

The Springfield Water and Sewer Commission



What is FOG (Fats, Oils and Grease)?

FOG is fats, oils, and grease that can build up in sewer lines. When grease is washed down the sink or toilet it sticks to the inside of sewer pipes. This can increase the chance of a sewer back up into homes, businesses, apartments and public spaces.



Problems Caused By FOG (Fats, Oils and Grease)



A Residential Sewer Backup

Restoration Costs For Home and Business Owners

Home and business owners are responsible for clean up, damages and restoration caused by a sewer backup. Private companies charge several thousands of dollars for these services.



Problems Caused By FOG (Fats, Oils and Grease)

- Exposure to raw sewage is a public health concern and has environmental impacts.



- FOG related repairs increase the cost of maintaining of sewer collection system.

Obvious Sources of FOG



Not So Obvious Sources of FOG



Daily Kitchen Practices To Prevent Sewer Backups

NEVER

- Never pour grease down sink drains or toilets
- Never use the toilet for disposal of food scraps, sanitary items, cloths or towels - these items should be placed in the trash



Daily Kitchen Practices To Prevent Sewer Backups

ALWAYS

- Dispose of cooled cooking grease into a container with a lid and throw it in the garbage. *For Example: a metal can or glass jar*
- Scrape food scraps from dirty dishes and pans into the trash can before washing
- Use a paper towel or a scraper to remove residual grease from dishes and pans prior to washing
- Use baskets or strainers in sinks to catch food scraps
- Minimize the use of your garbage disposal – it does not eliminate grease



Why Have A FOG (Fats, Oils and Grease) Program?

- The Springfield Water and Sewer Commission owns, operates and maintains the sanitary collection system. This includes sewer mains that are connected to the wastewater treatment plant at Bondi's Island.
- If sewer mains are clogged with FOG, the collection system will become blocked and cannot operate at full capacity, which increases the chances of a sewer overflow.



Preventing FOG (Fats, Oils and Grease) Saves Money

- Sewer backups are unsanitary, unhealthy, and expensive to clean up.
- Costs include the expense of clearing the blockage and replacing damaged property which may include: rugs, furniture, flooring, drywall and business equipment.
- Less FOG in sewer mains reduces maintenance and repairs.



All these expenses are preventable!

Don't throw money down the drain.

Help prevent sewer backups.



Wipes Clog Pipes!

Did you know that most “disposable” wipes **do not** dissolve when flushed?

Do Flush

- Toilet Paper
- Human Waste



Don't Flush

- “Disposable” Wipes
- Paper Towels
- Feminine Products
- Cotton Balls
- Dental Floss
- Diapers



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