

Dear Oakboro Utilities Sewer Customer,

When liquid, semisolid or solid fats, oils and greases enter drains to the sewer system, they can harden, cling to pipe walls and build up in collection system lines. Fats, oils and greases also known as FOG come from commercial establishments such as restaurants, delis, bakeries, institutions such as schools and churches as well as from our homes.

Cleaning built up fats, oils and grease from wastewater collection system lines requires manpower and equipment at expense to the Town of Oakboro which must be passed on to you as sewer user fees. Built up fats, oil and grease can cause sewer system blockages and overflows, resulting in damage to homes, businesses and the environment. Sewer overflows require costly cleanup and can result in costly fines for environmental damage.

Oakboro Utilities needs your help to control fats, oils and grease. If we can find better ways to dispose of FOG instead of down the drain, we don't have to remove it from the sewer system.

Thank you for your help on this situation!

Fats, Oils & Grease Control Ideas

- Scrape excess food and grease from dishes, pots and pans before washing. Dispose of in 1) the garbage, 2) use to feed pets or 3) start a compost pile.
- Use paper towels to clean up grease, dispose of in garbage.
- Reuse or recycle oils and grease. Many restaurants have waste cooking oil recycling programs.
- Use less oil and grease for cooking. Bake instead of frying. It's healthier too!
- Pre-rinse dishes with cold water through sink strainer before placing in dishpan or dishwasher. Dispose of strainer material in garbage.
- Do not use garbage disposals that discharge to the sewer system.

Fats, Oils & Grease Do's and Do Not's

DO:

- Collect grease in a container and dispose in the garbage.
- Put solid waste such as disposable diapers and personal hygiene products in a wastebasket.
- Place food scraps in the garbage for disposal with solid waste.

DO NOT:

- Pour grease, fats, and oils down the drain.
- Use the toilet as a wastebasket
- Use the sewer as a means to dispose of food or scraps

Fats, Oils & Grease Facts

- Fats, oils and grease enter sewer system from washing dishes, floor surfaces, equipment and clothes.
- Over 30% of North Carolina sewer overflows were caused by fats, oils and grease in 1999.
- The best way to manage fats, oils and grease is to keep it out of sewer system.
- The fine to Oakboro for a sewer system overflow caused by fats, oils and grease is up to \$25,000 per occurrence.
- Pouring oil or grease into a storm drain is the same as pouring it directly into a stream or lake.
- Frying oils can generally be stored for up to six months and also be reused for up to six hours of frying time.

Grease builds up in the sewer system just like cholesterol in a person's arteries. Don't give your sewer system a heart attack.

Grease in Sewer Line



Cholesterol in Artery



Fats, Oils & Grease Control Program Awareness

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