

PREVENTING SEWER OVERFLOWS

PHX
WATER
SMART

HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR HOME AND COMMUNITY:

The Environmental Protection Agency reports that 47 percent of sewer overflows are caused by Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG). FOG comes from meats, butters and margarine, food scraps, sauces, salad dressings, and cooking oil. When FOG goes down the drain, it hardens, catches other debris like flushable wipes (not as flushable as you might think), and causes sewer pipes to clog. This can lead to a nasty sewer overflow where raw sewage backs up into your home, lawn, neighborhood, and streets. Gross!

Here are simple steps you can implement to avoid household and environmental damage and a costly bill:

- ◆ Scrape food scraps, sauces, and grease from plates, pots and pans into a trash can.
- ◆ Wipe the remaining oil off with a paper towel and discard before washing or placing into a dishwasher.
- ◆ Don't use the garbage disposal use sink strainers to collect solids, then empty the strainer into trash.

The steps to prevent FOG from clogging your pipes are free! The cost of a plumber removing FOG from your pipes is not.

For more information, visit phoenix.gov/FOG.

CEASE THE GREASE!

Store It — once cooled, use a coffee filter, cheese cloth or strainer to siphon into a container. Store in the refrigerator or freezer for later use.

Scrape it — Place all food scraps from dishes into the garbage before washing.

Trash It — Pour into small, sealable containers before disposal. Make sure to only throw away small amounts of FOG at a time. Big jugs can leak, making a mess of the city's collection trucks and disposal facilities.



Did you know pouring leftover fats, oils and grease (FOG) down the drain can result in blockages and serious damage to your home's plumbing and the city's sewer system? Keep your plumbing clean by properly disposing of FOG this holiday season.



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