

# Facts about Fats, Oils and Grease

Fat – Oil – Grease (FOG). Fats, Oil & Grease can accumulate in a building’s private sanitary sewer lateral or a City owned public sanitary sewer pipe in the street. This can cause blockages in pipes, as well as causing a sewage back-up into your property. When hot dishes and pans containing Fats, Oil or Grease are washed without proper removal processes, this will harden downstream, causing blockages, and reducing the capacity of the pipes. This can lead to expensive maintenance & repair costs!

## Tips for keeping FOG out of pipes



Skim, scrape or wipe food, oil and grease from dishes, pans, fryers, griddles and work areas before prewashing. Cool first.



Never pour or wash oil or grease down any drain.



Put oil and grease into covered collection containers.



Don't put food or grease down the drain – even if there is a garbage disposal.



Prewash dishes and pans with cold water before putting them in the dishwasher.



Don't wash floor mats where water will run off directly into the drain.

## **Why is it important to keep Fats, Oil and Grease (FOG) out the sanitary sewer system?**

Not paying attention to proper Fat – Oils – Grease prevention can hurt your business in many ways:

- FOG can shut off your dishwasher during a cycle
- FOG can harden in your sanitary sewer lateral, severely reducing its capacity & proper operation
- If not properly addressed at the earliest opportunity, FOG can result in sewage backups into your property and can impact the health of the sanitary system for adjacent properties
- If not properly addressed, FOG can destroy your property's interior plumbing, resulting in expensive repairs or total replacement

## **How can I learn more about keeping Fats, Oil and Grease (FOG) out of sewer pipes?**

1. Conduct periodic training sessions with food service staff to reinforce the need to for FOG mitigation
2. Review and post the FOG documentation (see links below)
3. Make sure your staff scrapes & wipes all food oil and grease from dishes & pans **before** washing
4. Pour oil and grease into covered collection containers
5. NEVER pour oil or grease down any drain