



# FOG FAQ'S: FATS, OILS AND GREASE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. What is FOG?

A. FOG stands for Fats, Oils and Grease. It is a byproduct of cooking and includes oils, animal fats and vegetable fats.

Q. What are the most common sources of FOG?

A. The most common sources of FOG are meats, lard, shortening, sauces, gravy, oil and dairy products.

Q. How does FOG enter the sewer system?

A. FOG makes its way through our kitchen sinks into the sewer system. When greasy dishes are washed at the sink or grease is poured down the drain, the FOG ends up in the sewer system.

Q. What happens when FOG enters the sewer system?

A. FOG enters the system in a liquid form. Over time, it hardens to form solid mass that coats the insides of the pipes. The grease accumulates and blocks the pipe, causing sanitary sewer overflows.

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## FOG in the sewer system causes:

- Raw sewage flowing into homes (unhygienic and expensive; repairs and cleanup often must be paid by homeowners)
- Raw sewage overflowing into yards, parks and streets
- Exposure to disease causing organisms
- Increase in operation and maintenance costs for local sewer departments resulting in higher sewer bills for customers

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Q. Can I use garbage disposal or detergents and hot water to wash FOG down the drain?

A. No. A garbage disposal will only shred the food to smaller particles. The particles will accumulate down the sewer lines to cause back ups. Detergents and hot water may temporarily keep the FOG in liquid state and push it further down the pipe. Over time, FOG will cool and solidify in the sewer system blocking the pipes and causing backups.

Q. How can I prevent FOG from entering the sewer system?

A. Never pour FOG down your kitchen sink or toilet. Make sure you dispose of FOG in a proper manner.

