

# ...**PUT YOUR GREASE IN A CAN!**

Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) from cooking can clog your sewer pipes if you pour it down the drain. In fact, it is one of the most common reasons why sewer lines back-up into homes and businesses. Do your part to CAN IT by pouring your fats, oils and grease into a can and dispose of it in the trash.



Build-ups of **FOG** obstruct, and eventually clog, drainage systems, leading to sewer back-ups into the home or business.

## What do I do if I have a backup?

Call the Utilities Commission at 386-427-1361 immediately. We will respond to your location as soon as possible to see about your back-up. If it is on our side of the clean-out, we will take care of the blockage and there is no trip-fee.

If it is on your side of the clean-out, a trip fee applies and you will have to call a plumber to resolve the issue. That's why it is so important to maintain clear sewer lines - it can be costly.

After hours, you should call the U.C.'s 24 Hour Trouble Service line immediately at (386) 427-1368. In addition, an after-hours trip fee may apply if the blockage is on the customer's side of the clean-out.

## What else can I do to help?

Always keep your clean-out easy to locate by trimming the grass and other vegetation away from it. If you don't have a clean-out at the property line, next time you hire a plumber, you should have one installed. They are an invaluable part of service and maintenance of your sewer system, as you can see.

**UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
**CITY OF NEW SMYRNA BEACH**  
Canal St., NSB, FL 32168  
(386) 427-1361 | [www.ucnsb.org](http://www.ucnsb.org)

**YOU CAN BRING HOME THE BACON, FRY IT UP IN A PAN, JUST DON'T FORGET TO...**



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What is F.O.G.?

Fats, Oils, and Grease (F.O.G.) is found in common food and food ingredients such as meat, fish, butter, cooking oil, mayonnaise, gravies, sauces and food scraps.

### Why is F.O.G. a problem?

F.O.G. can build up in your home's or business's sewer lines and can block them, resulting in a sewage backup into your property, onto the street, or in local waterways.

### How does it build up in my sewer lines?

Everyday washing of plates, pots, pans, and cooking equipment sends F.O.G. down the drain. Small amounts of F.O.G. washed down the drain over time can eventually build up.

### Who is responsible for maintaining my sewer lines?

Property owners are responsible for maintaining and repairing their sewer lines, up to the connection to the UC's service, which is commonly called a "clean-out" and is usually located at the property line. If there is a back-up due to grease with damages, the UC is not responsible for any claims, since the customer's use of the sewer service caused the problem.

**I don't pour oil down the drain, so I shouldn't have any F.O.G. buildup in my sewer lines, right?**

No, you may still have a problem if you wash even small amounts of F.O.G. down the drain. This can still build up in your sewer lines.

### What can I do to prevent F.O.G. buildup?

Pour cooled F.O.G. into a covered, disposable container and throw it into your garbage.

### Is using my garbage disposal OK?

F.O.G. will still build up in your sewer lines if you use a garbage disposal. It is best if you scrape all remaining food scraps from your plates, pots, and pans into your kitchen trash. Soak up remaining fats, oils, and grease with a paper towel and also dispose of it.

## HOW TO DISPOSE OF F.O.G.

Here are some ways to drastically reduce the amount of fat, oil and grease that goes down the drain.

- ✘ Collect and store used cooking grease or oil in a portable or disposable container. It can be stored, covered with our special lid and when it hardens, you can dispose of it in the trash.
- ✘ Use a rubber spatula to scrape as much of the grease off of the pan/plate as possible.
- ✘ Wipe the pan/plate/utensil clean with a disposable towel and throw it away in the trash. Rinse the pan/plate/utensil with cold water before putting in the dishwasher or washing with hot water.
- ✘ Use drain screens (strainers) in sinks to catch food waste and dispose of in the trash.
- ✘ Using hot water to wash the grease down the drain will not work.

**CAN THE F.O.G.!**  
**DURING THE MONTH OF MAY,**  
**CUSTOMERS CAN VISIT THE**  
**UTILITIES COMMISSION AT**  
**200 CANAL ST., AND**  
**ASK FOR A FREE LID TO PLACE**  
**ON A CAN WHERE YOU STORE**  
**YOUR F.O.G.**  
**UNTIL YOU**  
**CAN DISPOSE**  
**OF IT.**

