

Eliminating Fats, Oils, and Grease

The City of Roswell recorded 21 sanitary sewer overflows last year totaling more than 1 million gallons of raw sewage spilled to local rivers and streams. One major cause of sewer overflows is build up of fats, oils, and grease. Information on fats, oils, and grease is provided below to improve water quality and reduce sanitary sewer overflows.

What is FOG?

Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) comes from:

- **Meat fats**
- **Lard**
- **Cooking oil**
- **Shortening**
- **Butter and Margarine**
- **Food Scraps**



FOG build-up in a sewer pipe

How does FOG get into my sewer system?

- FOG enters your plumbing system through home garbage disposals, the kitchen sink and toilets. It then coats the inside of your plumbing pipes, and also empties into our city and county's sewer system.
- Think of this as hardening of the arteries; when cholesterol builds up in your bloodstream, it causes a heart attack.
- When FOG hardens in the sewer system, it eventually causes a sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) where wastewater can back up into homes, businesses or manholes.



How Can I Help?

- NEVER POUR FATS, OILS AND GREASE DOWN THE DRAIN.
- First, allow it to cool, then pour your fats, oils and grease into a container and place it in the garbage.
- Use a paper towel to clean up the excess grease residue left on the inside of cooking pots, pans, and utensils. Dispose of this 'greasy' towel in the trash.
- Scrape all food scraps from plates, pots, pans, utensils, and any cooking surfaces into the trash for disposal.
- Fats, oils and grease entering the sewer system will eventually increase the costs of our Water & Sewer services.



These costs are ultimately paid by you, the consumer!

Help keep FOG out of our sewer pipes.

Take that extra step. You can make a difference!

If you notice a leaking or overflowing sewer manhole please contact the Fulton County Department of Public Works at 770-640-3040.

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