

THE BAD NEWS

Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) will clog your pipes and may cause a sewage backup into your home or a sewer spill in the street that goes down the storm drain and into waterways. FOG CLOGS.

THE GOOD NEWS

Sewer backups and sanitary sewer overflows are preventable. Just follow these Sewer Smart Tips from Backup Buster:

1. Do not pour fats, oils and grease down the drain. Dispose of them properly.
2. Put a backflow device on your sewer cleanout if you are at risk of a sewer backflow.
3. Plant appropriate trees - but don't plant them over your sewer lateral.
4. Don't let your toilet turn on you! Be prepared for disaster.
5. Have a plan to maintain your sewer system annually.



FOG Prevention Protects the Environment

Fat, oil and grease in sewer pipes, referred to as FOG, create pollution problems in many communities. FOG enters sewer pipes through restaurant, residential and commercial sink drains. Once in the sewer, FOG sticks to the pipe and thickens. FOG can build up and eventually block the entire pipe. Blockages in sewer pipes can send sewage backward – out of manholes into streets and rivers, or up floor drains in homes. These sewage overflows pollute the environment.

Impact of FOG

Preventing sewer backups from FOG blockages saves residents money and protects the environment. When sewer pipes on private property back up, the homeowner is responsible for the cleanup. For example, if a resident regularly pours grease down a drain, it will eventually cool, harden and form a blockage in the sewer pipe. Sewage then backs up through floor drains and toilets at the lowest point in the house. A plumber will have to be hired to clean the sewer and possibly repair plumbing inside the home. Cleanup costs can be expensive. Residents can help control the problem by properly disposing of fat, oil and grease. Everyone is part of the solution.

