

WHAT'S WRONG WITH FOG?

(FOG) *Fats, oils and grease come from butter, lard, vegetable fats and oils, meats, nuts and cereals.*

- Fats are among the more stable of the organic compounds and are not easily decomposed by bacteria.
- Fats coat, congeal, and accumulate on pipes, pumps, and equipment and sometimes obstruct lines.



Figure 1: Sewer line filled with restaurant grease.

MANAGING GREASE

FOG (fats, oils and grease) can be effectively managed to minimize impacts to the sewer system and decrease maintenance of grease interceptors.

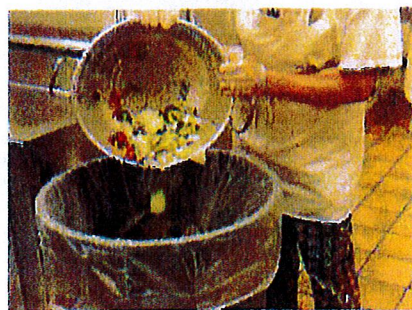


Figure 2: Practice dry clean-up.

FOG CONCERNS:

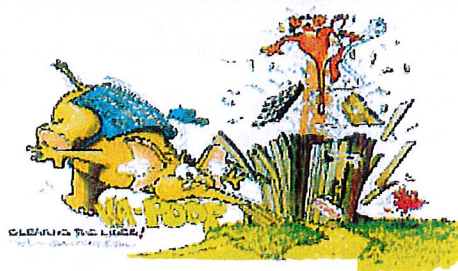


Figure 3: Effects of FOG on sewer system.

Improperly managed oil and grease from restaurants is a significant problem for wastewater collection and treatment systems. Fats, oils, and greases (FOG) coat, congeal, and accumulate in pipes, pumps, and equipment, leading to the costly and hazardous flow of waste grease into drain lines, sewer lines, lift stations, drain fields, and Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs).

- Improper disposal can result in high biological oxygen demand (BOD) and chemical oxygen demand (COD) levels, increased operating costs, and clogged collection systems.



Figure 4: Clogged pipe due to FOG.

HOW YOU CAN BENEFIT!

Economic Incentives:

Pumping out a grease trap is considerably more costly than the service fee of a hauler. In addition, with dry clean-up and other source reduction measures, many restaurants can reduce their water consumption and sewer use, which leads to more money saved.

Grease haulers' service fees are low and sometimes provided at no charge. And some recyclers will pay for restaurant oil and grease.

Compliance:

Many communities have sewer ordinances that limit the allowable concentration of oil and grease in the wastewater. Fines may be associated with non-compliance and excessive sanitary overflows may result in additional sewer charges.

Environmental Savings:

Recycling of oils and grease helps to keep these compounds from entering waterways, clogging municipal sewer lines, and taking up valuable space in landfills.

**Restaurant
Pollution
Prevention**

A Menu of Activities...to Keep Our Water Clean

Cease the Grease...

- Never pour grease into a sink, floor drain, dumpster, or storm drain.
- Save used cooking grease and oil for recycling in tallow bins or containers.
- Contact a licensed pumping company to haul used grease.



Chemical Storage and Disposal...

- Educate personnel on chemical ingredients; use least hazardous cleaning chemicals.
- Use up all solvents, floor cleaners, detergents, and other cleaning chemicals.
- Discard nonusable products, like cleaning rags, by taking products to the proper receptacles for recycling or disposal.

Outdoor and Sidewalk Areas...

- Sweep up food, cigarette butts, and trash from outdoor dining areas before rinsing or steam cleaning.
- Don't use toxic chemicals or detergents when you pressure wash outdoor dining areas, entrances or surrounding sidewalk areas.

Watch Out For Spills...

- Use dry methods for spill clean up.
- Sweep up spills and litter instead hosing down areas; do not power-wash.
- Use rags or absorbents such as cat litter and then dispose of materials in the garbage, or handle as hazardous waste when appropriate.

Cleaning It Right...

- Pour mop and wash water into the mop sink or down floor drains... NOT into gutters, alleys, parking lots, or a storm drain.
- Wash greasy equipment only in designated wash areas which are properly connected to the sanitary sewer system.



How About That Dumpster...

- Keep dumpster and loading dock areas clean.
- Control litter by sweeping the area not hosing.
- Replace leaky dumpsters and keep lids closed to keep out rainwater.



F.O.G. - Fats, Oils, and Grease

Floor Solvents, Cleaning Agents, Food Waste, Trash, and Garbage are all examples of waste generated from restaurants that can lead to stormwater pollution and/or sanitary sewer overflows when not disposed of properly. Protect your community and property: Cease the Grease, Properly Dispose of Waste, and remember...

Only Rain In The Storm Drain!



Clogged Pipe
Caused by
improper
grease disposal