Cooking grease is one of the major causes of residential pipeline and City sewer blockages. The spilled sewage eventually reaches streams/rivers causing unsafe conditions.

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By following a few simple steps, you can help prevent costly sewage overflows in the future.

**Step 1**

All fats, oils and grease should be poured into a coffee can, or other durable container, and disposed of in the trash can, not down the drain.

**Step 2**

Dishes and pots that are coated with greasy left-overs, should be wiped clean with a paper towel before washing or placing in the dishwasher. Toss the paper towel in the trash can.

**Step 3**

Scrape all scraps into the trash. **Don't** put any scraps in the garbage disposal. Dispose of them in the trash can or compost.

**FATS, OILS AND GREASE CAN CAUSE PROBLEMS IN THE SEWER SYSTEM. THESE INCLUDE:**

- Frying oil
- Salad oil
- Meat drippings
- Bacon fat
- Greasy leftovers
- Shortening or lard
Important Facts

- Cooking grease coats pipelines in a way similar to the way that fatty foods clog human arteries. The grease clings to the inside of the pipe, eventually causing complete blockage.
- Grease should **NEVER** be poured down the drain. Running hot water and pouring detergent down the drain only breaks up grease temporarily. As the grease moves through the pipe, it separates from the water and begins to coat the pipe.
- Flushing grease down the toilet also causes sewer blockages.
- Many foods are sources of fat that, with grease, can clog pipes.
  - Butter is 80% fat
  - An Avocado is 10% fat
  - Ranch Dressing is 50% fat
  - Mayonnaise is 30% fat
  - Alfredo Sauce is 20% fat
  - Ice Cream is 10% fat
  - Whole Milk is 4% fat