

Grease Myths

Myth #1

It's okay to pour grease down the drain if I run hot water with it.

All this does is move the grease down the sewer line. The hot water will soon cool and grease will begin to solidify and coat the sewer pipes eventually causing a sewer backup.

Myth #2

It's okay to pour liquid oils down the drain.

Liquid cooking oils float on water and easily adhere to sewer pipes. The oily film can collect food particles and other solids that will create a blockage.



Myth #3

As long as I use the garbage disposal it's okay to put fat, oil, and grease down the drain.

Using the garbage disposal only grinds particles up before passing them into the sewer pipes.

Myth #4

If I use dish soap while pouring the fat, oil, and grease down the drain it will break it all up and be fine.

Dish soap only breaks up the fat, oil, and grease temporarily. Further down the sewer line all that grease, oil, and fat will begin to congeal and cause a blockage.

Holiday Cooking Tips

Many people enjoy deep-frying their holiday turkey. After the festivities are over the question may arise: "What should we do with all that leftover oil?"

- Store the oil in its original container for reuse. Strain out any particles and freeze the oil. The oil can be kept for up to six months and reused for up to six hours of fry time.

OR

- Mix the oil with unscented kitty litter, sawdust, or sand to absorb the oil. Once the oil is absorbed it can be safely disposed of in the trash.

Do not pour fat, oil, or grease down the drain!



CITY OF SIMI VALLEY

Residential Grease Program



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What Is Simi Valley's Residential Grease Program and How Does It Effect Me?

Simi Valley's residential grease program is a public outreach program aimed at informing residents about the effect of **Fat**, **Oil**, and **Grease**, also known as **FOG**, on the sanitary sewer system.

Many residents are not aware that what they put down their sinks can affect the City's sanitary sewer system.

For years it has been a common practice to wash food wastes down the sink. This practice has led to an accumulation of fat, oil, and grease in the sewer pipes, resulting in sewer blockages, backups, and overflows.

Remember, putting fat, oil, and grease down the drain or flushing it down the toilet will lead to costly plumbing repairs!

Where Does Fat, Oil, and Grease Come From?

Fat, oil, and grease come from common cooking and baking ingredients, such as:

- Meat fats
- Bacon grease
- Food scraps, cooking oil
- Shortening
- Lard
- Butter and margarine
- Gravy
- Mayonnaise
- Salad dressings
- Sour cream



Do's and Don'ts for Fat, Oil, and Grease

Do's:

- **Do** use a plastic scraper to scrape food scraps into the trash, not the sink, and scrape residual grease or oil off of dishes, pots and pans prior to washing them.
- **Do** place a catch basket or screen over the sink drain when rinsing dishes, or peeling or trimming food, to catch small scraps that would otherwise be washed down the drain. Throw the scraps in the trash.



Don'ts:

- **Don't** use a garbage disposal. Grinding food up before rinsing it down the drain does not remove FOG; it just makes the pieces smaller. Even the non-greasy food scraps can plug your home's sewer lines.
- **Don't** pour cooking oil, pan drippings, bacon grease, salad dressings, or sauces down the sink or toilet, or into street gutters or storm drains.
- **Don't** use cloth towels or rags to scrape plates or clean greasy or oily dishware. When you wash them, the grease will end up in the sewer.
- **Don't** run water over dishes, pans, fryers, and griddles to wash oil and grease down the drain.

How Do I Keep Fat, Oil, and Grease Out of My Sewer Lines?

Never pour Fat, Oil, or Grease down the sink or toilet!

Never pour Fat, Oil, or Grease into street gutters or storm drains!

Wipe down pots, pans, and utensils with a disposable towel or use a plastic scraper prior to washing.

Pour grease into an empty container, such as an old coffee can, and allow the grease to cool completely. Once it has solidified, cover with a tight fitting lid, and dispose of in the trash.

For oil, grease, and fat that do not solidify, mix with an absorbent material, such as kitty litter, until all the moisture has been absorbed. Then dispose of it in the trash.

Scrape excess food waste from pots, pans, and dishes into the garbage.

