

PROBLEM:

Fat, oil and grease (also known as FOG) are often being disposed of incorrectly – down sinks and drains, causing an increase of build-up in pipes, sewers and maintenance equipment. Over time, the damage becomes not only costly, but poses potential health and environmental hazards.

MYTH:

Running hot water and/or degreasers down the drain with FOGs will stop it from hardening inside the pipe.

FACT:

Water and oil don't mix. When FOGs are poured down drains, they eventually cool and harden inside the pipes.

EXAMPLES OF ITEMS THAT MAY LEAD TO PROBLEMS:

Sandwich spreads	Gravies
Marinades	Dairy products
Shortening	Lard
Butter	Oil
Margarine	Meat fats
Grease	Food scraps
Cooking oils	Dressings
Sauces	Baked goods
Milks & creams	Coffee



Environmental Monitoring and Enforcement

Environmental Services Department
The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge St., Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1
905 830-4444 ext. 5000

More information – including the current and proposed draft bylaw – can be found by visiting our website at:

www.york.ca/seweruse
or emailing sewerusebylaw@york.ca



HOW TO PROPERLY DISPOSE

FAT, OIL AND GREASE





FOG: Fats, Oils and Grease

WHY SHOULD THIS CONCERN YOU?

FOG builds up in sanitary sewer collection systems and over time can cause sewer backups and manhole overflows into your homes, neighbourhoods and businesses. It also impacts the cost to maintain sewage infrastructure by way of increased taxes.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

We are ALL accountable. Proper disposal, in accordance with the Sewer Use bylaw, ensures York Region's water and wastewater programs continue to provide the highest levels of quality and safety without impacting costs.

Research has shown a concentration of FOG disposal problems, particularly in food service and operations areas. These can include, but are not limited to:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Family-style restaurants | Banquet centres |
| Fast food restaurants | Nursing homes |
| Grocery stores | Bakeries |
| Retirement homes | Hospitals |
| Recreational facilities | Arenas |
| Stadiums | Work cafeterias |
| Schools | Daycares |
| Coffee shops | |
| Food processing operations | |



WHAT IS CONSIDERED PROPER DISPOSAL?

HOW GREASE TRAPS WORK

Grease traps and interceptors are containment units designed to trap grease, oil, solids and other debris. They prevent these substances from getting into the sanitary sewer system where they can eventually block the entire pipe.



Grease traps and interceptors need to be properly sized, installed and most importantly, maintained.

CLEANING GREASE TRAPS

If cleaning the grease trap/interceptor yourself, scoop out the solidified grease portion on the top and place in the garbage or green bin for disposal. Place the liquid portion in a sealable container as used cooking oil can be recycled. Storage bins can be rented from cooking oil recyclers, usually at no cost to you.

There are companies that are certified and licenced grease removal contractors.

Keeping a logbook of all cleanouts, either by you or a contractor, along with receipts from the contractor, will help you maintain a grease trap/interceptor cleaning schedule.



BEST PRACTICES

- **Place** screens over drains
- **Wipe** grease from dishes and pots
- **Recycle** used oil
- **Train** employees
- **Scrape** food scraps and grease into garbage or green bin
- **Check** grease trap often - clean often
- **Avoid pouring** grease down drains or toilets
- **Avoid** using degreasers, emulsifiers or hot water to dissolve grease
- **Avoid pouring** grease straight into a garbage dumpster



POSSIBLE RECYCLING USES

Biodiesel

Biodiesel is a clean burning, non-toxic and biodegradable renewable fuel. It is produced by chemically reacting vegetable-based oils, animal fats or waste cooking oils with alcohol and a catalyst. Biodiesel is interchangeable with petroleum diesel or may be mixed with petroleum diesel to produce biodiesel blends.

Biogas Renewable Energy and Compost

The process of breaking down organic waste in the absence of oxygen generates methane and carbon dioxide, which can be used toward energy generation. Residual matter can also be added to natural compost due to its nutrient-rich content.

