

FACT SHEET



RESIDENTIAL FOG

Fats, oils, and grease (FOG) are the by-products of the food preparation, cooking, and baking process. Some sources of FOG include ice cream, cheese, peanut butter, gravy, and salad dressing. When poured down the drain, FOG can cause blockages in the sewer pipes that move wastewater from homes and business to one of the County's four water reclamation facilities (WRFs). The sewer collection system includes a network of pipes, that lead from the sinks, toilets, showers, tubs and some appliances in the home. Anything that goes down a drain enters this sewer collection system.

How Does FOG IMPACT You?

FOG may seem harmless, easily disappearing down the drain; however, once in the pipes, it cools, and clings to everything in the collection system. This restricts the flow of wastewater. Over time the FOG will block the pipes completely and force the sewage back up the drain into a home, street, or creek.

As a customer, you are connected to Cobb's collection system and have a vested interest in the dependability and life span of this system and WRFs. Portions of your water bill are used for system maintenance, repair, and replacement, including cleanups and costs associated with grease-related overflows. These overflows can enter nearby waterways, impacting the health of the environment and the quality of life for local residents.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

In Cobb County, 85% of the sewer blockages are grease-related and occur in residential areas. Help Cobb County Water System protect the environment and reduce system maintenance costs by properly disposing of FOG.



- NEVER pour fats, oils, and grease down the drain.
- Scrape leftover food on pans and plates into the trash (not the sink).
- Pour, wipe with a paper towel, and scrape oil and grease from pans into a container before washing.
 Dispose of these materials in the trash.
- Fryer grease should be cooled, placed in a sealed container, and disposed of in the trash.
- Use sink strainers to catch food, then empty the strainer contents into the trash.

If you have any questions about FOG or the Cobb's Grease Management Program, visit www.cobbstreams.org or email FOG@cobbcounty.org