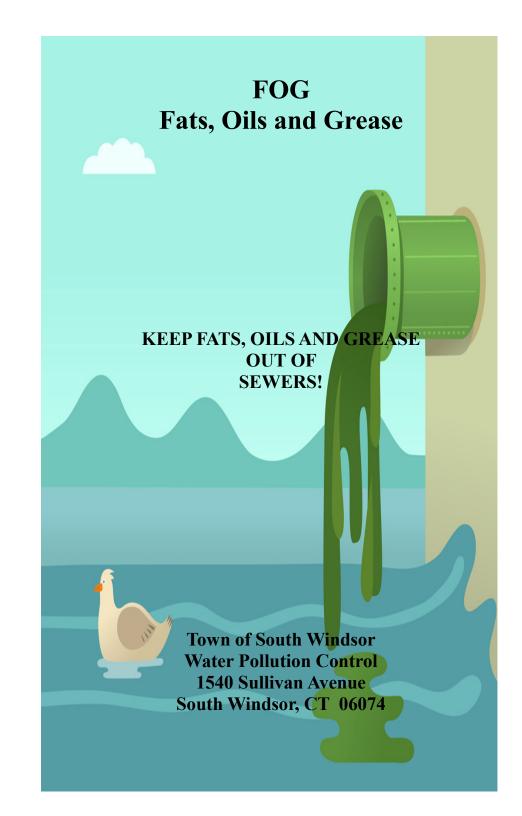


For more information, please call the Public Works Department at (860) 644-2511, ext. 343 or visit the Town's website at www.southwindsor.org





## What is FOG?

FOG stands for fats, oils and grease which are the natural by-products of the cooking and food preparation process.

Where does it come from?

It comes from meat fats, lard, cooking oil, shortening, margarine, food scraps, sauces, and dairy products. FOG should never be put down any drain.

Why shouldn't FOG go down the drain?

Although fats, oils, and grease in a warm

liquid may appear harmless as they flow easily down the drain, as the liquid cools, FOG solidifies and separates from other liquids and sticks to the inside of pipes on your property. Overtime, layers of FOG will build up and harden into a plug that restricts water flow resulting in a backup or sewer overflow.

## How does it affect me?

Fats, oils and grease discharged into sewers from household drains can cause major problems such as:

Raw sewage backing up into your home or your neighbor's home;

Expensive and unpleasant clean-up that often you must pay for;

Raw sewage overflowing into parks, surface waters, yards, and streets;

Potential contact with disease-causing organisms from the sewage overflow:



An increase in operation and maintenance costs, and potential state regulatory fines that would increase sewer user bills for you.

## What can I do?

- The easiest way to solve the grease problem is to keep FOG out of the sewer system in the first place and this can be achieved by following the disposal methods listed below:
- Never pour fats, oils or grease down the kitchen sink.
- Scrape, or pour grease and food scraps into a can (let contents cool and solidify) and dispose with your refuse.
- Wipe down greasy pots and pans using a dry paper towel and dispose of it with the trash.
- Do not use hot water to wash the grease down the drain.
- Do not use detergents that dissolve grease as the grease may pass down the pipe and solidify causing problems elsewhere.
- Avoid use of garbage disposal units as they may also contribute to blocked pipes.
- Put basket/strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids, and then empty them in the trash.
- Mix cooking oil with an absorbent material such as cat litter or coffee grounds, place in a lidded container for disposal with our trash.
- Talk to your friends about the problem with grease in the sewer system.