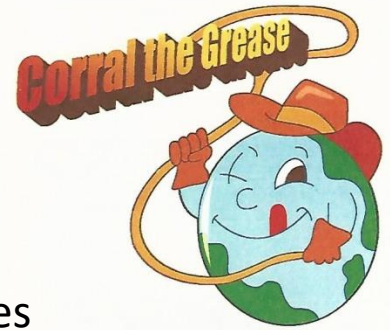


City of Houston
Public Works & Engineering



Help prevent plumbing blockages
and sanitary sewer overflows

For further information, contact:
Department of Public Works & Engineering
Dial 311
or visit our website at www.corralthegrease.org

FOG discharges in our sewers

Most people know that fat and grease are not good for their health. did you know that fats, oils and grease (FOG) is a problem for your plumbing and for the public sewers, as well?

- **When warm**, FOG floats in hot, soapy water.
- **When cool**, FOG hardens and becomes solid.
- **In plumbing and sewer pipes**, Fog can block the normal flow of sewage in the pipe.



Grease from private lines accumulated in manhole.

Blocked plumbing/sewer overflows

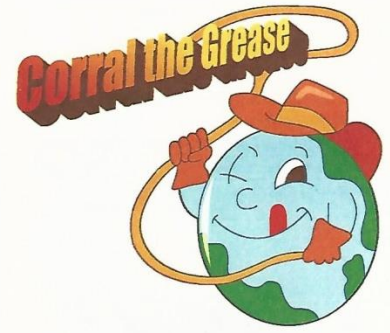
Since most inside plumbing lines are small and most sewer lines are only a little larger, FOG and foreign materials can easily block the sewer. A blocked sewer can be worse than just inconvenient and unpleasant. A blocked sewer can cause an overflow that sends pollution to our creeks, streams and bayous.

Common **enemies** to our sewer system:

- FOG products
 - Cooking grease & oil
 - Meat fats
 - Shortening, butter & margarine
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Paper towels
- Baby diapers
- Feminine hygiene products
- Hair
- Chewing gum
- Plastics



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"Corral the Grease" at its source

Take a moment to properly dispose of grease, and other items that can clog your plumbing. You and your family may not have to ever use the plunger again! You can also keep your sewer lines free flowing, which will help to protect Houston's natural environment.

- **DO NOT POUR** grease products down sinks or toilets.
 - Pour liquid oils and grease into heat resistant bags or containers.
 - When full of grease, seal and throw away the bag or container with your trash.
- **Scrape fats, grease and food** from plates and cooking utensils into the trash.
- **Use basket strainers** in sinks to catch food particles and empty them into the trash.
- **Remember, garbage disposals are not effective** for disposing of FOG.

Corral the Grease containers

There are different types of containers you can choose depending on how much oil you use to prepare your food. Use the container that's best for you. Options you might consider include:

- **Disposable used waste containers**, you can use coffee cans, pet food cans, food jars, etc., that you already have in your home. Instead of throwing them away empty, use them to collect your cooking oil or grease.
- **Heat resistant bags**, such as oven roasting bags (sold in grocery stores) or foil lined bags (sold online at sites like: www.trapthegrease.com; which, to our current knowledge, is appropriate for the use recommended by its manufacturer. However, the city does not endorse the product, nor warrant it for merchantability, nor fitness for a particular use.).

