

Residential Grease

Did you know that cooking grease is the main cause of most residential sewer Backups? Sewer backups can cause damage to homes, health hazards and threaten the environment. Grease is frequently poured down the sink drain because the warm oils are liquid and can be poured. It may not appear to be harmful but as the liquid cools, the grease solidifies and causes buildup inside the pipes, becoming a hardened mass. The buildup restricts the flow of sewage and clogs the pipes.

Residents can help prevent pipe blockages and sewer overflows by keeping grease out of the sewer system.

Do:

- ✓ Put oil and grease in collection containers
- ✓ Place food scraps in waste containers or garbage bags for disposal with solid wastes, or start a compost pile
- ✓ Remove oil & grease from kitchen utensils, equipment and food preparation areas with scrapers/towels/brooms
- ✓ Keep grease out of wash water
- ✓ Place a wastebasket in the bathroom to dispose of solid wastes, Disposable diapers, and personal hygiene products do not belong in the sewer system



Do Not:

- ⊘ Do not put food scraps down the garbage disposal. These units only shred solid material into smaller pieces and do not prevent grease from going down the drain.
- ⊘ Pour oil and grease down drains
- ⊘ Wash fryers/griddles, pots/pans and plates with water until oil and grease are removed
- ⊘ Put food scraps down drains
- ⊘ Use the toilet as a wastebasket



Adapted from material from The North Carolina Pretreatment Consortium

Town of Swepsonville
P.O. Box 282
Swepsonville, NC 27359
578-5644

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- ⊗ Pour oil and grease down drains
- ⊗ Wash fryers/griddles, pots/pans and plates with water until oil and grease are removed
- ⊗ Use hot water to rinse grease off surfaces
- ⊗ Put food scraps down drains
- ⊗ Use the toilet as a wastebasket