

City of Winter Haven Utility Services

Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Program

Why should I be concerned about Fats, Oils and Grease?

Fats, oils, grease and food scraps don't mix well with water. When flushed down the drain, these materials can build up and block the entire sewer pipeline causing raw sewage to overflow into your home, lawn, streets and even the lakes. A clogged line from FOG creates health risks, destroys the environment and costs you money.

Where do Fats, Oil and Grease come from?

They come from various food products such as meats (poultry, beef, pork and fish); butter and margarine; lard and cooking oils; food scraps; sauces and dairy products.

How can I stop FOG from clogging my drains?

- Never pour fats, oil, grease or food scraps into your sink, garbage disposal or toilet.
- Scrape or wipe grease and food scraps from pots, pans, grills and utensils into a can and place it in your garbage.
- Use kitty litter, newspaper, paper towels, coffee grounds or absorb-all to soak up oils and place them in your garbage.
- Pour large quantities of used cooking oil into a collection container. Freeze it and reuse later, or place it in your garbage.

What happens if I allow the sewer lines to backup?

A blocked sewer line can be expensive to fix, for you and the City of Winter Haven. If the blockage is on your property, it is your responsibility to pay for the repairs. Just a few simple steps in your home can reduce and eliminate most grease blockages. And remember to recycle used motor oil. When poured down house or storm drains, used motor oil may travel to your local lakes where it can harm underwater vegetation and aquatic life.



This 4-inch lateral line is reduced to less than 2-inches in diameter because of grease!

For more information go to www.mywinterhaven.com or call City of Winter Haven Utility Services at (863) 291-5853, ext. 674.