



**Department of Public Works**

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## ATTENTION

### Groveport Residents

Did you know that sewer backups and flooded basements can be caused by grease being dumped into the sanitary sewer system? This is something you have the power to change, and here's how.....



### Eliminating Fats, Oils and Grease from Sanitary Sewers

*Just as grease clogs your arteries, it clogs your sewer system...*



#### Where does this grease come from?

Grease is often formed as a byproduct of cooking. Grease is found in such things as:

- Meat fats, Lard, Cooking oil, Shortening
- Food scraps and Sauces
- Dairy products like Butter and Margarine

**Too often**, grease is washed into the plumbing system, usually through the kitchen sink. Grease sticks to the inside of sewer pipes (both on your property and in the streets). Over time, the grease can build up and block the entire pipe.

**Home** garbage disposals do not keep grease out of the plumbing system. These units only shred solid material into smaller pieces and do not prevent grease from going down the drain.

**Commercial** additives, including detergents that claim to dissolve grease, may pass grease down the line and cause problems in other areas.

#### The results of a grease-blocked sewer pipe can be:

- Raw sewage overflowing in your home or your neighbor's home.
- An expensive and unpleasant cleanup that most times must be paid for by **you, the homeowner** (the average cleanup cost is about \$3,000; this does not include replacing carpets and repairing walls)
- Potential contact with disease-causing organisms
- An increase in operation and maintenance costs by the City's Public Works Department staff, which causes higher sewer bills for customer

**Please do your part to keep fats, oils and greases out of our sewers: Dispose of fats, oils and grease properly!**

## **Groveport Residents. What you can do to help us AND help yourselves save thousands of dollars:**

**Grease poured down kitchen drains can clog sewer pipes, spewing sewage into the streams and rivers or into your basement...**

**Follow these easy steps to prevent sewage back-ups and overflows:**

- After grilling or frying, don't put fats, oils or grease down the sink-drain or down the toilet.
- Putting grease down the drain can eventually mean clogs for you, potential backups into your basement and sewage overflows in the sewer system.
- Never pour kitchen grease or oil down the drain, even if you are "washing it down" with hot water.
- Pour cooled grease into a can (a soup can works great) and throw in the trash.
- Some food and sauces have oils in them. Scrape food into the trash or put into your compost pile.
- Some cooking oils can be recycled into biofuels. For more information please visit [www.swaco.org](http://www.swaco.org) to find an acceptable facility near you.



**So please do your part by disposing of fats, oils and grease the proper way.**

### **To dispose of grease properly:**

- Pour the hot grease into a can
- Put a lid on the can
- Put the can in the refrigerator to let the grease cool
- Repeat above until can is full
- Once the can is full, throw the can into the trash
- And keep the can covered so the melted grease doesn't spill into your trash

**QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?**

**CALL THE DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC WORKS  
614-836-3910**



**Can it. Cool it. Throw it away.**