

# Fats, Oils, and Grease Program

## Why a Fats, Oils, and Grease Program?

Fats, oils, and grease (FOG) cause serious problems in the sewer system. FOG sticks to the walls of the pipes when put down the drain. Over time, FOG can restrict the flow in a pipe until a sewer clog or overflow occurs. Clogs and overflows can create smelly, dirty messes—possibly harming your business, property, and profits, as well as the environment.

**Preventing grease-related sewer blockages and overflows benefits your business, your pocketbook, and the environment.**

## DON'T GET STUCK PAYING FINES AND CLEANUP COSTS

FOG blockages can cause sewer overflows into businesses, nearby homes, or local waterways, potentially causing a loss of business. Overflows impacting public health, waterways, and storm drains can also result in expensive fines and cleanup costs. Preventing FOG from entering sewers helps prevent these problems.

## PROPER DISPOSAL OF FATS, OILS, AND GREASE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs)

### Spills

Block off sinks and floor drains near any FOG-related spill, and clean up using absorbent material, such as absorbent pads, paper towels, cat litter, or other granular absorbents. Put used absorbent material in plastic bags before placing in the trash. Mop the area, then dispose of mop water in the mop sink.

### Overflows

Prevent outdoor spills and overflows from entering the storm drain by creating a barrier using dirt, cat litter, or other absorbent material to contain the overflow until all grease is cleaned up. Call the Sacramento Area Sewer District at (916) 875-6730 as soon as possible. Overflows from outdoor interceptors may result in fines and costs associated with cleanup.



For more information and training materials, please visit [StopTheClog.com](http://StopTheClog.com).

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## HOW TO RECYCLE KITCHEN GREASE

- **DO** save used cooking oil for recycling in sealed bins or sealed containers by emptying into solid containers that you can easily lift and pour.
- **DO** combine used oil and grease collected from an automatic grease trap with the recycled grease bin/container contents after asking the renderer if it's okay to mix them.
- **DO** keep bins and containers sealed, tightly closed, or locked to prevent illegal dumping and to keep insects, animals, rainwater, and wind out. If the bins and containers are stored outside, keep them under a roof and away from storm drains.
- **DO** train all employees on spill response and overflow reporting procedures, including use of absorbent material and proper disposal.
- **DON'T** pour FOG into a sink, floor drain, storm drain, dumpster, plastic bags, or on outdoor surfaces or landscaped areas.
- **DON'T** combine FOG from manual grease traps or interceptors with recyclable oils or grease.
- **DON'T** wash recycling area or outdoor spills into the sewer or storm drain.

## RECYCLED GREASE STORAGE AREA

- Grease bin storage areas should be located more than 30 feet away from a storm drain.
- Keep area clean by using absorbent material or mop, and dispose of dirty mop water in the mop sink.
- Keep spill clean-up kits containing rags, absorbent pads, and cat litter near the storage area in an accessible location.
- Keep the exterior of the container clean by using absorbent materials to wipe off any noticeable grease.
- Put used rags, absorbent pads, cat litter, and other cleaning materials in a separate sealed bag before placing in the trash.



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## EMPLOYEE QUIZ

- 1. Why is pouring fats, oils, and grease (FOG) down the drain a problem?**
  - A) It can clog the drain.
  - B) It can cause a sewer overflow.
  - C) It can result in expensive fines and cleanup.
  - D) All of the above
- 2. Which of the following is NOT a proper FOG disposal method?**
  - A) Wipe or scrape food into the trash before washing cookware.
  - B) Wash spilled oil down the drain.
  - C) Use absorbent materials to clean up FOG-related spills.
  - D) Place used oil and grease into a recycling bin.
- 3. You should always use water to clean FOG spills.**
  - A) True
  - B) False
- 4. Where should grease and oil be recycled?**
  - A) In a grease recycling bin
  - B) In trash cans
  - C) Down the sink
  - D) In a paper bag

1) D: Pouring fats, oils, and grease (FOG) down drains can lead to all of the results listed. If FOG gets into storm drains, it could result in expensive fines and cleanup. Sewer pipes can get clogged from FOG and can result in a sewer overflow. 2) B: Oil should never be washed down the drain. Clean up spilled oil with absorbent material. 3) B: Water should never be used to clean FOG spills because it will end up down the drain. Use absorbent materials and put them in the trash after the spill is cleaned. 4) A: Grease and oil should be recycled in a grease recycling bin located in a well-maintained storage area.



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