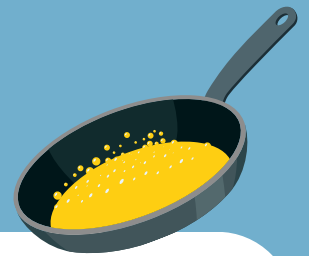


Fats, Oil and Grease

The silent enemies of the sewer system



Every year the City of Campbell River spends time and resources cleaning Fats, Oil and Grease (FOG) from the sewer system.

FOG is the root cause of many sewer problems, including sewer spills and equipment malfunction. FOG can also create problems in your home, like sewage back-ups and basement floods.

We need your help!

Together we can reduce or eliminate FOG from the sewer system and help save money and resources.

Where does FOG come from?

Household items are common sources of FOG. that enter the sewer system when flushed down sinks, drains and toilets. Typical FOG items include:

- fats, lards, cooking oil, shortening, butter, and margarine
- sauces, gravies and salad dressings
- meats and other food scraps (including baked goods)
- dairy products (milk, cream, yogurt, kefir, cheese)
- cosmetics and toiletries (makeup, lotions, some soaps and oils)



How does FOG cause blockages?

The sewer system consists of pipes (called sewer mains and laterals) and lift stations, that pump sewage to Norm Wood Environmental Centre, the City's wastewater treatment plant.

When FOG are poured down drains, sinks and toilets they cool, harden and slowly start to accumulate on the inner walls of sewer pipes. FOG does not mix with water, and over time the grease layer starts to grow and can completely plug the pipe. FOG also plugs pumps at the lift stations and wastewater treatment plant, directly impacting the quality of water that goes into the Ocean.

Accumulation can happen anywhere in the sewer system, including your house! It's better to prevent FOG from entering the sewer system and avoid sewage spills, back-ups and flooding.

What does FOG look like?



FOG accumulation on pump



FOG accumulation on pipe walls

How can you help?

- Do not pour Fats, Oil and Grease into the sinks, drains or toilets of your house. "Chasing grease" with hot water does not work either.
- Dispose FOG into the garbage - wait for it to cool, add it to a sealable container and throw it away!
- Do not flush flushable wipes, toiletries, food scraps - anything solid can stick to FOG and aggravate the problem.
- Spread the word - share the risks and consequences your friends, families and neighbours of the risks and consequences of FOG. This way, you can help our community defeat FOG!