

Put Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) in the right place.

Fats, oils and grease (**FOG**) cause Middlesex's sewer system major grief when they're poured down the sink or into your toilet.

Sewers can become blocked when this **FOG** hardens – and you could end up either flooding your basement or even your neighbours.

FOG that makes it through the pipes to our wastewater treatment plant costs Middlesex Centre residents huge amounts of money every year.

TAKE A CUP! FILL IT UP.



How to use this cup:

- 1 Pour cooled kitchen fats, oils and grease (**FOG**) into this container.
- 2 Put the lid on and store in your fridge or freezer until full or ready for disposal.
- 3 Put full cups into garbage.

Common forms of household waste that should **NOT** go down the drain: gravy, salad dressing, bacon grease, cooking oil, soup, dairy products, any meat fat, butter and margarine.

SINKS AND TOILETS ARE NOT GARBAGE CANS. PUT WASTE IN THE RIGHT PLACE.



Cups available at various municipal facilities throughout Middlesex Centre

Learn more at:
middlesexcentre.on.ca/FOG



PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Sinks and Toilets are **NOT** Garbage Cans

How are Fats, Oil and Grease (FOG) Impacting our Sanitary Sewer and Septic Systems?

When fats, oil and grease from food are poured down the drain, they are often in a warm liquid. This may not seem harmful but, as the liquid cools, the grease becomes a hardened mass.

As grease build ups over time, this mass restricts the flow of sewage – both on your property and under the roadway.

In fact, pipes blocked by grease are an increasingly common cause of sewage back-ups and septic issues in homes as well as sewer overflows. Each year, a considerable amount of time and money is spent cleaning clogged pipes throughout the municipality as a result of grease in the sanitary sewer system.

What Can I DO TO HELP?

- ✓ **DO wipe out** greasy pots, pans, and utensils with paper towel before putting them into the sink.
- ✓ **DO place** grease and food scraps into a green bin to be disposed of in the curbside organics collection program (if available).
- ✓ **DO use a strainer** in the sink to catch food scraps and other solids.
- ✓ **DO place grease in a cup**, jar or can and store it. Once the grease solidifies place it into the garbage, green bin or feed it to birds as suet feeders.
- ✓ **DO inform friends and neighbours** about the problem with fats, oil and grease in the sewer system.
- ✓ **DO pour turkey and roast drippings into a container** and dispose in garbage.

- ✗ **DON'T pour grease** down the sink or into the toilet.
- ✗ **DON'T rinse grease** down the sink. Once the grease and water cool, the grease deposits onto the sides of the sewer pipe, blocking the pipe over time.
- ✗ **DON'T use cloth towels or rags** to wipe off plates or clean greasy dishware. When the towels are washed the grease will end up in the sewer.
- ✗ **DON'T pour** turkey or roast drippings down your toilet.

Did you know?

- Everything put into your toilet goes to a wastewater treatment facility or into your septic system
- Drains, sewers and septic systems are designed for human wastes, toilet paper and wastewater only
- Flushing paper towels, personal wipes, diaper wipes and other garbage down the toilet can create sewer backups, overflows and issues with your septic system
- Special wastes depots will take many household chemicals and wastes

