

We need your help to prevent sewer spills!



You may be thinking “I’m just one person,” but it’s simpler than you think to help prevent the blockage of sewer lines that can lead to damaging—and costly—sewer spills.

“**FOG**” stands for **Fats, Oils and Grease**, and the pouring of these substances down the drains of homes and apartments in San Diego is the leading cause of local sewage spills. Clogged pipes can lead to blockages that ultimately result in overflows into our homes, onto our streets, down storm drains and into local waterways—damaging property and costing money.

FOG INCLUDES:

- Cooking oils & grease
- Meat fats
- Lard
- Salad dressings
- Gravy
- Butter & margarine
- Soup

Remember to always dispose of FOG in non-recyclable containers and, most importantly, to **NOT** dispose of these substances down the drain. It’s harmful as well to dispose of FOG into your yard or elsewhere outdoors, where it can run off into storm drains when it rains, and attract insects and rodents.

FOG brochures available • Printed on recycled paper



For more FOG information, call the Public Utilities Info Line at 858.292.6300 or log onto www.sandiego.gov/mwwd/sewerspill/grease

Your Home Sewer Plumbing – Sewer Lateral Responsibility

The sewerage system for a home or property is connected to the City of San Diego sewer main through a sewer lateral. The owner is responsible for the maintenance of that lateral from the property all the way to the connection with the sewer main. This connection may be in the street, past the property line; on an easement; or in a canyon. Usually after clearing the lateral, a licensed plumber will assess the condition of the pipe by televising it. If the pipe has a break or a crack, the homeowner must repair the portion of pipe that lies between the house and the property line.

If the plumber finds a break in or collapse of the lateral beyond the property line, the licensed plumber should call the City's Sewer Emergency Line at (619) 515-3525 to file a Plumber's Report. The City will investigate within 24 hours.

The leading causes of public sewer spills (roots and cooking grease) are also the leading causes of lateral spills on private properties. Maintaining your sewer lateral, keeping it clean and open, can save you a great deal of money in plumbing and cleaning bills, and eliminate the aggravation a sewage backup will cause.

For more information about your home sewer plumbing, including related City policies and how to keep your sewer lateral in good shape, visit us on the web at:
www.sandiego.gov/mwwd/general/plumbing.shtml



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO