

# FOG



**FATS, OILS  
AND  
GREASE  
AND  
SEWER  
BACKUPS**



VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG

## **Protect Public Health & the Environment While Saving Money**

FOG-related grease blockages increase the village's operation and maintenance costs resulting in higher sewer bills for all. On private property, grease-related blockages can cause the sewer to backup into your home through sinks, drains and toilets. It can also cause backups of sewage into streets, parks, yards and waterways causing a public health risk and environmental concern. Because raw sewage contains disease-causing organisms, sewer backups can be harmful to children, adults and pets. In addition, clean up and repairs for damage caused by sewer backups are expensive and unpleasant.



## **Contact the Village**

Dial 311 in the village or (847) 895-4500 outside of the village with questions or concerns regarding FOG or how to address sanitary sewer backups that might be a result of FOG.



FOG stands for “fats, oils and grease” and can become a problem when it builds up in sewer lines as a result of grease being washed down the sink or toilet. When that occurs, the grease coats and sticks to the inside of sewer pipes which can lead to an increase of sanitary sewer backups into basements, roadways and bodies of water. Sewer backups create health hazards, cause expensive property damage and can threaten the environment.

## Prevent Sewer Backups

- Never pour grease down sink drains or toilets.
- Dispose of cooled cooking fats, oils and grease into a waxed food container such as a milk carton or container with a lid and dispose of it in the garbage.
- Minimize the use of your garbage disposal, especially for foods containing FOG that can get caught in the plumbing and cause sewer backups.
- Use baskets or strainers in sinks to catch food scraps. Empty scraps into the trash can.
- Scrape food scraps from dishes and pans into the trash before washing.
- Do not use the toilet for disposal of food scraps, sanitary items, rags, cloths, or towels.



## Where does FOG Come From?

Keep these foods out of all drains:

- Meat fats (bacon, sausage)
- Lard
- Cooking oil
- Butter or margarine
- Food scraps
- Baking products
- Milk, ice cream, yogurt, sour cream
- Cream-based sauces
- Salad dressings, cheeses, mayonnaise



## *Did you Know?*

*Liquid dish detergents that claim to dissolve grease may actually pass grease down the sewer line, which could cause a sewer backup. It is important to scrape grease off all dishes.*