

**What You Can Do to Eliminate Fats, Oils and Grease From Entering the Sewer**

***Best Management Practices***

**Do not use hot water to wash grease off dishes.** This grease will congeal in sewer lines once the water cools or it meets with cold water.

**Scrape grease and food scraps** from trays, plates, pots, pans, utensils, and grills (or other cooking surfaces) into a can or the trash for disposal in solid waste.

**Do not put grease down garbage disposals,** kitchen sinks, floor drains or toilets.

**Be cautious of chemicals and additives** (including soaps and detergents) that claim to dissolve grease. Some additives simply pass grease down pipes where it can clog sewer lines in another area.

**Use dry clean-up methods** first like sweeping/wiping with rags before washing mats and other equipment.

***Can the Grease!***

***fats, oils and grease*** clog the sewers

**For more information on Best Management Practices (BMPs) for your home, apartment complex or business please contact:**

**Pretreatment Program  
Coordinator**

**Tel: (320) 255-7226**

**Email:  
emma.larson@ci.stcloud.mn.us**

**Please report all suspicious activity regarding the disposal of Fats, Oil and Greases in the Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Systems.**

**ST.CLOUD  GREATER  
PUBLIC UTILITIES**



**ELIMINATE  
*fats, oils & grease...*  
from the Sanitary  
Sewer System,  
Environment and from  
our Lakes and Rivers!**

**Best  
Management  
Practices for  
Residential  
Users**

**of the Service Area  
of the City of St. Cloud  
Wastewater Treatment Facility**

# fats

Recycle all used grease

## The Grease Problem

Sewage backups and overflows are often the result of grease build-up, which can cause **property damage, environmental problems and health hazards.**

All too often, fats, oils and grease from cooking and food preparation are washed into the plumbing system and **stick to the insides of sewer pipes** both on your property and in the streets.

Over time, fats, oils and grease build up and eventually **block the entire pipe** causing sewage backups and overflows.

Section 360:45. of the City of St. Cloud Sewer Use Code prohibits sewer discharges that cause obstructions or interferences with the St. Cloud Wastewater Treatment Facility. When businesses, homes and apartment complexes improperly dispose of grease down drains, sewer lines become clogged resulting in **sewage backups** into homes, businesses and storm sewers, and eventually the receiving waters.

The St. Cloud Wastewater Treatment System includes **292 miles** of sanitary sewers and the treatment facility that processes **11 million gallons of sewage a day.** Sewer blockages due to grease obstructions are a costly problem and can **damage** the treatment processes and equipment at the facility.

# oils

sewer overflows are expensive to the City AND the Homeowner

## GREASE

Grease put into the sewer system from homes and businesses increases the amount of time and money required to be spent by the city each year. This can increase sewer rates.



Sewer Cleaning

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## Blocked Pipes

Grease builds up in pipes and causes blockages...

## SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOWS INTO THE ENVIRONMENT, HOMES ETC



# grease

## COSTS

### TO YOUR Home or Business

As your sewer pipes back up, sewage and food particles that accumulate can attract insects and other vermin and may create potential health hazards. Property damage can result from sewage backups leading to expensive cleanup and plumbing repairs that may have to be paid for by you.

### TO THE Environment

Clogged sewers can lead to overflows. As sewage overflows onto streets, it enters the storm drain system where the sewage is then carried to our lakes, streams and rivers.

### TO THE City

Sewer blockages and overflows lead to excessive and costly maintenance; resulting in severe fines from the regulatory agencies resulting and increased sewer rates.

