



Cease the Grease!

One of the leading causes of sanitary sewer overflows in our area is blockages caused by fats, oil, and grease - also known as F.O.G. - commonly found in food and cooking products. F.O.G. often ends up in the sewer system because it's poured down sink drains or disposals instead of disposed of properly in the trash. Food scraps and cooking residue should be scraped into a bag or container and placed in the trash, not poured down the drain or disposal.

“CEASE THE GREASE”

BY FOLLOWING THESE SIMPLE STEPS:

- Never pour grease or food products down sink drains or into toilets.
- Scrape and/or wipe grease and food scraps from trays, plates, pots, pans, utensils, grills and cooking surfaces into a can or the trash.
- Don't run water over greasy dishes. Wipe them first with dry paper towels to remove greasy residue.
- Never put grease or food products down garbage disposals; disposals don't eliminate F.O.G., they just make the pieces smaller. Instead, put baskets/strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids, then empty the drain baskets/strainers into the trash.



Baby and cleaning wipes, paper towels, toilet seat covers as well as other solid waste and personal care products are also ongoing contributors to sewer overflows in New Hanover County. These items, like F.O.G., can cause big problems for our sewer system and the environment because they don't break down. They can build up in the pipes and cause blockages or get trapped in the collection screens and eventually cause the sewer system to overflow. Keep in mind, just because a product claims to be “flushable” doesn't mean it belongs in our sewers.

Bottom line, don't use your sink drain or toilet for a trash can. The sewer system and the equipment used to process waste is specifically designed for toilet paper and human waste only. Proper disposal of F.O.G. and other items will help avoid costly sewer overflows, higher utility costs and negative impacts on the environment.

*Learn more about your water/sewer utilities
by visiting our website: www.cfpua.org*