FATS, OIL AND GREASE (FOG) THE PROBLEM

FOG includes animal and vegetable oils/fats used to cook and prepare food.

- Cooking oil
- Lard/shortening
- Butter/margarine
- Meat fats
- Gravy and sauces
- Dairy products
- Food scraps
- Baked goods

When these items are not disposed of properly and enter the sewer system the buildup of FOG inside sewer pipes restricts the flow of wastewater from your home to the sewer, which causes sewer backups. Backups can lead to raw sewage overflowing into our homes, yards, streets, parks and ultimately to Lake Mead, our drinking water supply. FOG decreases pipe capacity and, therefore, causing additional cleaning and maintenance.

FOG also hampers effective processing at the wastewater treatment plant. Maintenance, damage, and repair costs caused by buildups of FOG in your residential sewer lateral are paid for directly by you. These same costs that occur in the



city's main sewer lines and wastewater treatment plant are factored into your monthly sewer bill. We are committed to providing city of Las Vegas residents with a safe and environmentally sound wastewater collection and treatment system. Such a system is vital to support a quality lifestyle, a strong local economy, and to protect our environment. Clearly, the prevention of FOG entering into our sanitary sewer system is the key to our problem.

PREVENTION

Here are some easy steps to make sure FOG does not make it into our sanitary sewer system:

- Never pour grease down sink drains, garbage disposals or into toilets
- Use a paper towel to clean up the excess grease residue left on pots, pans and utensils.
- Scrape all food scraps from trays, plates, pots, pans, utensils and any cooking surface into the trash for disposal
- Recycle waste cooking oil





FLUSHABLES TO FLUSH OR NOT TO FLUSH

Flushable wipes can cause damage to plumbing, septic systems and public sewer systems. The rapidly growing use of pre-moistened personal wipes are clogging sewer pipes and creating additional maintenance issues at our wastewater treatment plants.

Municipalities struggling with aging infrastructure have wrestled for years with the problem of wipes, dental floss, paper

towels, and other items not designed for flushing becoming entangled in sewer pumps. These types of products should be disposed of in the trash, not the toilet.

Even though products may indicate they are biodegradable or can be flushed, they do not break down in time to make it through the wastewater process. They may clog your pipes at home, leading to costly plumbing expenses, or they may get caught in the public wastewater system, which can cause thousands of dollars of damage to pumping equipment.

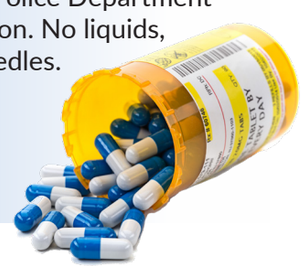
Remember, if you're not sure how a product should be disposed of, place it in the trash. Keep hazardous items out of our sewer system, storm drains and Lake Mead.



THINGS TO REMEMBER

Republic Services, Inc. accepts many different hazardous items found around the house that are not permitted to be disposed of in your regular curbside garbage pickup. They have regularly scheduled drop-off days so residential customers can bring these items to a designated drop-off location for proper disposal. These include:

- Paint thinners and removers
- Solvents
- Gasoline, diesel fuel, lighter fluid and used motor oil
- Batteries
- Televisions and computers
- Pesticides, fertilizers and pool chemicals
- Drain and oven cleaners
- Aerosol cans
- Prescription and non-prescription drugs *(per Republic Services' acceptance requirements: prescription medication must be ground up and mixed with kitty litter, sand or coffee grounds in order to be accepted.)*
- You can also dispose of expired medicines at a Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department patrol substation. No liquids, aerosols or needles.



HELP PROTECT OUR DRINKING WATER SUPPLY.

CITY OF LAS VEGAS

Environmental Compliance & Enforcement

416 N. Seventh St.
Las Vegas, NV 89101

702.229.6594
ECE@LasVegasNevada.Gov

Please practice proper disposal to find safe alternatives to products that can harm our drinking water supply.

cityoflasvegas
lasvegasnevada.gov

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BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO PROTECT

OUR DRINKING WATER AND SEWER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEM

