

Think Before Flushing... Fats, Oils & Grease (FOG)



FOG includes, but is not limited to, leftover food, animal fats, vegetable fats, oils and grease used to cook and prepare food. When FOG is flushed down the drain, it acts like a glue and coats the inside of sewer pipes and mains.

Whether you're flushing it down your toilet or sink drain – FOG does not belong in the sewer!

Overtime, FOG buildup can block an entire sewer pipe (both on private property and in the street). Blockages in the sanitary sewer system can cause sewage spills, manhole overflows or sewage backup in homes and businesses.

Sewer backups are costly and messy to clean up, causing significant damage to private plumbing and the City's sanitary sewage collection and treatment systems. Backups also pose an environmental and public health concern and should be avoided at all costs.



Medicine Hat
The Gas City



What you can do to prevent FOG buildup in the sewers:

- » Avoid pouring FOG down your drain.
- » Wipe pans and dishes using paper towel and pour FOG into an empty, disposable can or jar and allow it to cool.
- » Dispose of cooled FOG, saturated paper towels and leftover food in the garbage.
- » Put a basket / strainer in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids.
- » In sink garbage disposals / garburators do not lessen the effects of FOG on the sewer; minimize the use of these devices.
- » Don't rely on hot water, additives or grease fighting soaps. They only disperse FOG down the line to recollect, solidify and cause more damage.

Keep the sewers clear of FOG and think before flushing!

If you have questions, comments or for more information please contact us:

Environmental Utilities

Call 403.529.8176 - Mon to Fri 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Fax 403.525.8624

eu@medicinehat.ca

www.medicinehat.ca/eu



@medicinehatcity



CityofMedicineHat