

The fatty, greasy, oily food remnants poured down your kitchen drain accumulate on your pipes before heading into the city's sewer system. Over time, the remnants solidify and increase in size causing blocked pipes and, eventually, raw sewage backing up into your home and overflowing into streets! The costs associated with unclogging or replacing your pipes can be significant!*

*According to HouseLogic.com, the average price to replace plumbing in a 1,500 square foot two-bathroom home is anywhere between \$4,000 - \$10,000.



Recycle your used cooking oil

Large amounts of residential cooking oil, such as the oil used to deep fry a turkey, can be disposed at one of the following disposal locations from mid-November to early-January. Visit surpriseaz.gov/sustainability for specific dates.

FIRE STATION 302, 18600 N. Reems Rd.

FIRE STATION 303, 15440 N. Cotton Ln.

FIRE STATION 305, 15517 N. Parkview Pl.

For additional tips and info about deep fryer safety, contact the Surprise Fire-Medical Department

623.222.5000

Call the city's environmental division at 623.222.7029 for more information on how you can keep your pipes F.O.G.-free.



GUARDIANS REGARDING OUR SEWER SYSTEM

A City of Surprise, AZ Wastewater Campaign



Fight the F.O.G. & save your pipes





DON'T POUR F.O.G. IN...



Garbage



Sink drain



Toilet



The presence of fat, oil and grease (F.O.G.) compounds in Surprise sewers is increasing at an alarming rate; resulting in clogged sewers and water infrastructure maintenance issues. F.O.G. prevention begins in your kitchen where proper disposal can help you, and the city, save money on repairs.

F.O.G. & Our City Sewers

While fat, oil and grease (F.O.G.) is accumulating in your pipes, it is also pouring into our city sewer system where it combines with other compounds found in sewers and creates maintenance issues for the city's water treatment facilities. Large chunks form and clog the city's water maintenance equipment, resulting in infrastructure repair; over time, continued maintenance on the equipment could contribute to utility rate destabilization for Surprise sewer service customers.

So how do we fight the F.O.G.?

Know the F.O.G. so you can fight the F.O.G.!

Fats, oils and grease do not only come from cooking meat and fried foods; butter and margarine, shortening, sauces and dairy products also contain components that can solidify when poured down the drain.

Here are a few best practices to keep in mind while cooking at home:

- » Let small amounts of left over grease solidify in a pan or jar and then throw it in the trash can in a covered container.
- » Avoid putting food scraps down the drain; fat from food remnants will still accumulate and cause problems in your pipes.
- » Try using your garbage disposal as little as possible; don't use it as a food grinder.
- » Designate a sponge for cleaning greasy dishes; when it's no longer useful, throw it in the trash. Reusable dishrags washed in the laundry can still transport fat.
- » Use a paper towel to soak up as much fat and oil from greasy dishes or pans before putting them in the sink or dishwasher. Try to put as little grease down the drain as possible!



Did you know that **FAT, OIL & GREASE** poured down drains can cause **plumbing problems** for **YOUR HOME?**