

## What is F.O.G.?

Fats, Oils, and Grease, or F.O.G., are byproducts of cooking and meat cutting. FOG can be found in meat fats, oils, shortening, butter, margarine, sauces, and dairy products. Although these are normally associated with food service establishments, automotive service centers and gas stations, the contribution to the sewer system from homeowners is greater than from these establishments.

## Why a F.O.G. Program?

The City of Harrison has experienced an increase in the level of F.O.G. concentrations at the wastewater treatment plant. F.O.G. is difficult to remove at the wastewater treatment facility. It cannot be treated in the same manner as conventional domestic waste and must be removed by mechanical screens, rakes and augers. Improper removal of these materials could cause Harrison to violate the conditions of its National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and result in high fines and possible future wastewater fee increases.

## Why is FOG an issue for me?

When FOG are poured down drains or in garbage disposals, they build up in our sewer systems and can back up into sinks, toilets and possibly into your own or somebody else's basement. These backups pose serious public health and environmental problems – and they can be very costly too. Sewer overflows damage the environment by affecting the health of our waterways. By learning how to safely recycle or dispose of FOG, we are accepting some of the responsibility for the health of our environment and the quality of life we enjoy in Harrison.

## Did you know:

**Most sanitary sewer backups occur between your home and the town's sewer main?**

Promote the concept of "3 R's":  
**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.**

## You can help prevent a costly and unsanitary overflow by following a few simple steps:

1. Do **NOT** pour any cooking oils or grease into your kitchen sink or other drain lines. Scrape excess grease in a container and dispose of it in the garbage. "DRY-WIPE" all pots, pans, plates and cookware before washing in the sink or dishwasher. Use a paper towel and wipe out grease, oil, and food particle residues into the trash.
2. Place food scraps in waste containers or garbage bags for disposal with solid wastes, or start a compost pile; promote use of scraping dishes prior to washing.
3. If you have a kitchen sink garbage grinder, use this as little as possible since food particles and grease from the grinded material will still clog your pipes and affect the downstream sewer system.
4. Educate your children and neighbors about grease control practices so your home and the neighborhood sewer system will not have grease related blockages.

The purpose of the City of Harrison's F.O.G. program is to provide, business owners and residential customers, education and guidance in the proper disposal of fat, oil and grease produced by their establishments and in their homes.

### **Your involvement in Residential Oil & Grease Control will:**

- Help prevent sewer line blockages in your home's plumbing lines, saving you money on repair and maintenance, and time to not have to deal with sewer line clogs.
- Help prevent sewer line overflows, thus you help protect the environment and public health.
- Use the grease control practices and know you are doing all you can to prevent sewer line problems and at the same time save money on dishwashing detergent.



# **F. O. G.**

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Treatment Plant**  
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An informational guide to  
the City of Harrison  
**Fats, Oils and Grease  
Program**