

Grease buildup from restaurants and other commercial food preparers and homes are a common cause of sewer backups. Fats, oils, and grease from leftover food, meat fat, cooking oil, lard, butter and margarine, baking ingredients, heavy sauces, and dairy products are released by kitchens without grease interceptors or other grease control measures. Fats, oils, and grease wash into the plumbing system and build up inside our sewer pipes. Eventually, the buildup blocks the entire pipe, causing sewage backups and overflows.

What are the consequences of fat, oil, and grease buildup?

- Clogged sewers cause sewer overflows into streets, the storm drain system, or back-ups into your home or business.
- When sewer pipes back up, the accumulated sewage and food particles may attract insects and other vermin, creating a potential health hazard.
- Expensive cleanup and repairs may be necessary because of property damage caused by sewer backups.

What can you do to help?

To avoid fats, oils, and grease buildup, remember to do the following:

Use a basket or a strainer in your sink drain to catch food scraps and other solid items.

■ Scrape grease and food scraps from plates, utensils, grills, griddles, and pots and pans.

■ Freeze animal fat in a can and put food waste in a trash container instead of pouring down a drain, garbage disposal, or toilet.

Recycle all used grease.

Connecticut F.O.G. General Permit



General Permit for the Discharge of Wastewater Associated with Food Preparation Establishments

- Class III and Class IV facilities in existence on or before 09/30/05 have until 07/01/11 to comply
- Class III and Class IV facilities that come into existence after 09/30/05 will need to be in compliance when operation begins

Even with 07/01/11 date, earlier compliance triggers can be set by:

- Change in ownership
- Substantial renovation of the facility
- Designation of the sewer area as problematic by the WPCA

Where can you get more information about the F.O.G. General Permit?

- Go to Section 22a-430b of the General Statutes
- Contact the City of Waterbury Water Pollution Control Department @ 203-574-8265