

Clogged Drains Cost \$\$\$\$

What is FOG?

FOG refers to the most common types of **fats**, **oils**, and **grease**. These consist of meat fats, food scraps, lard, cooking oil, sauces, dairy products, butter, and margarine.

Grease is the leading cause of dry-weather sewer overflows. A common myth is that running hot water after pouring grease down the drain will rinse the by-product away; however, the grease will soon cool and coat the pipes, eventually building up and causing a backup.

Do you know how to properly dispose of the grease that you produce while cooking?

The City of Newton offers the following advice on grease disposal in order to protect your plumbing and the environment.

- Line a coffee can or jar with a heat-resistant oven bag. Once the bag is full and the grease has cooled, discard the bag in the trash and reuse the can or jar.
- Mix oils and liquid vegetable fats with absorbent material such as cat litter or coffee grounds in a lidded container before disposing of them in the garbage.
- Scrape grease and food off plates and pans, into the trash, before washing.
- Use sink strainers to catch food scraps and discard the scraps into the trash.
- Garbage disposals grind food into smaller pieces but don't keep grease from going down the drain

Drain Cleaning Tip:

Use vinegar and warm water or commercial detergent to dissolve grease from drains.

For more information, contact the City of Newton Public Works & Utilities Department at 828-695-4310.