Storm Water Pollution Prevention

Kitchen: Fats, Oil & Grease

Fats, oil and grease (FOG) from cooking poured into kitchen sinks can build up in sewer pipes causing a sewage spill into the storm drain system which flows untreated into the San Gabriel River and eventually into the ocean, contaminating our waterways and making them unsafe for people and wildlife. Follow these simple tips to help prevent pollution and protect the health of your family and community.

Pipes Are For Water Only:
FOG that enters the sewer system from kitchen sinks and drains eventually hardens and coats the inside of sewer pipes. Over a short period of time FOG residues build up in the sewer pipes and begin to restrict flows until the FOG build-up completely blocks the normal flow of sewage.

The blockage causes the flow of sewage to exit from the sanitary sewer system at the nearest outlet that is most commonly a manhole, cleanout, or broken pipe, and flow into the storm drainage system.

A sewage spill due to blocked pipe from a build-up of FOG is costly to both you and the environment. However, with the proper care and attention, it may be avoidable. So do your part for yourself and your community.

To Protect Your Pipes:

1. Do not put oil, grease or greasy foods down the sink, drain or toilet.
2. Solidify cooking oil with an absorbent material such as cat litter or coffee grounds; place it in a sealed container and dispose of it in a trash receptacle.
3. Grease must be hardened in a can or container with a lid before disposing in the trash. If you soak a greasy pan, place a paper towel over the drain basket to catch grease and food particles as you pour the water down the drain.

For large amounts of household oil and grease, place in a sealed container and take it to a local Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center for proper disposal. Call (888) CLEANLA for a collection facility or mobile collection event near your area.

For specific questions on storm water pollution prevention, contact:
City of Walnut
21201 La Puente Rd.
Walnut, CA 9189
909-595-7543

To report illegal dumping or for general storm water pollution prevention information, contact:
1 (888) CLEANLA
www.888cleanla.com