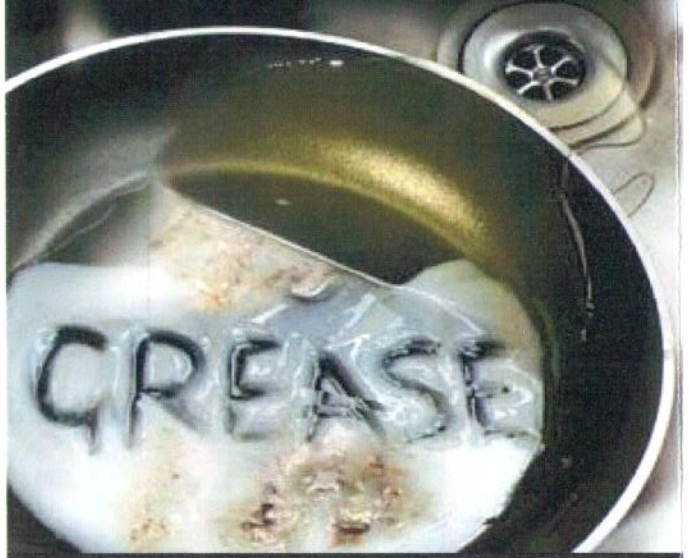

What are FOGs?

FOG stands for fats, oil, and grease, and is used to describe a group of household items that contribute to buildup in sewage lines. Some of the most common FOGs include:

- **Vegetable oil**
- **Cooking oil**
- **Grease**
- **Milk**
- **Butter**
- **Batters**
- **Meat fat**
- **Condiments**
- **Salad dressings**
- **Sauces**
- **Lard**
- **Shortening**

For local information, contact your city or county stormwater coordinator.
For more information about the stormwater regulatory program, contact the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) Water Quality Division at (405) 702-8100, or visit the ODEQ website at:
http://www.deq.state.ok.us/WQDnew/stormwater/

Only rain down the storm drain! Call the Stormwater Hotline to report illicit dumping or illegal dumping at (580)581-3565

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Website: www.cityof.lawton.ok.us

Call Waste Water Collection to report sewer overflows at (580) 581-3500

CEASE THE GREASE

To save our sewers and waterways

City of Lawton
Stormwater Management

What is FOG pollution?

When homeowners dump fats, oils, and grease down their home drains, they are inadvertently contributing to stormwater pollution. When these substances, known as FOGs, are discharged into sewage drains, they coat drainage pipes and cause build up. Once there is enough build up of FOGs, a blockage can occur, and sewage backs up onto streets. Sewer backups may result in :

- Clogged home drains and toilets
- Raw sewage backing up into homes
- Expensive cleanup and repairs
- Higher waste water system operation and maintenance costs
- Unpleasant odors
- Potential public health riskis

A sanitary sewage manhole clogged with FOG

A sanitary sewage manhole backing up

How to prevent FOG pollution

Here are some things homeowners can do to prevent this pollution:

- Never dump fats, oil, or grease into your home drains.
- Cover your kitchen sink with a catch basket
- Store FOGs in a sealed container with an absorbent substance like cat litter or coffee grounds, and throw it away when it is full.
- Wipe plates and silverware that have FOG residue on them with a paper towel before washing them
- Install a grease trap in your home sink and empty as needed
- Never put food scraps down the drain
- Don't use hot water to get FOG down your home drain
- Encourage neighbors to dispose of FOGs correctly
- Don't use chemicals to clear FOG clogs; they can damage the piping system

Myths about FOGs:

- If you follow FOGs with hot water, it will clear your drain **FALSE**
- It's okay to put food scraps down the drain **FALSE**
- Homeowners can't do anything to prevent FOG pollution. **FALSE**
- If you follow FOGs with dish soap, it will clear your drain **FALSE**

What happens once the sewage enters creeks?

Toxic algae bloom covers water body

Once exposed to creeks, sewage can cause death and illness in wildlife. The harmful bacteria use up oxygen within the creek leaving less for wildlife. Additionally, the nitrogen and phosphorus within the sewage promote the growth of toxic algae blooms and the sewage makes the creeks unsafe for recreational purposes such as swimming or fishing.