



### What Else You Should Know...

In the State of Michigan, used oil in a liquid form, **CANNOT** be disposed of by any of the following methods:

- Dumped down drains or sewers or into surface or groundwater
- Disposed of in landfills
- Burned in municipal solid waste incinerators or other incinerators without energy recovery
- Used as dust control or weed control

[https://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-ead-tas-usedoil\\_320882\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-ead-tas-usedoil_320882_7.pdf)



Downriver Utility Wastewater Authority  
25605 Northline Road  
Taylor, MI 48180

## Downriver Wastewater Utility Users – Be Smart, Reduce Repair Costs, and **PREVENT CLOGS!**



**Do Not Pour** Fats, Oils or Greases (FOG) Down Drains.

They Can Create **Sewer Backups** and **Overflows**.

DOWNRIVER  
UTILITY

**WASTEWATER**

AUTHORITY

Allen Park  
Belleville  
Brownstown Twp.  
Dearborn Heights  
Ecorse

Lincoln Park  
River Rouge  
Riverview  
Romulus  
Southgate

Taylor  
Van Buren Twp.  
Wyandotte



### What is FOG?

**Fats** are solid at room temperature. Can be found in: butter, shortening, margarine, peanut butter, meat trimmings, uncooked poultry skin, cheeses, milk, cream, sour cream and ice cream.

**Oils** are liquid at room temperature. Can be found in: vegetable oil, canola oil, olive oil, corn oil, and salad dressings.

**Greases** turn to liquid when cooking but solidify when cooled. Include: gravy, mayonnaise, melted meat fats, bacon and sausage, boiled poultry skin, and salad dressing.

### Sources of FOG

Fats, oils, and greases (FOG) are the by-products of cooking found in food, meat fats, lard, cooking oil, butter, margarine or shortening. It is also in lubricating oils and greases. Major contributors of FOG are homes, restaurants, and automotive repair shops.

### Impact of FOG

Just like cholesterol from fatty food can clog up human arteries and cause heart attacks, FOG can clog up the sewer pipes. This can create sewer backups and costly drain cleaning and repairs. Preventing sewer backups from FOG blockages saves customers money and protects the environment. When sewer pipes on private property backs up, the homeowner is responsible for the cleanup. If other sewer lines are clogged up due to a business operation, the business can be charged for the cleanup costs and damages caused by the backup. Sewage overflows in the streets due to sewer backup can be expensive.



## How Can Homeowners Help?

Residents can help control the problem created by FOG by properly disposing of Fats, Oils, and Greases. Every customer is part of the solution.

- Pour or scrape greasy or oily food waste into a container.
- Allow the greases to cool in the container before disposing of with the trash.
- Mix oils with absorbent material such as cat litter and dispose of with trash.
- Keep drains clean by pouring a cup of baking soda down the drain followed by a cup of vinegar. Wait at least 15 minutes and then rinse with hot water.



## How Can Restaurants Help?

- Do not pour oil and grease waste into the sink. Dispose of the waste properly.
- Install properly sized oil and grease separator and perform routine cleaning and maintenance of the separator.
- Keep log book showing Date, Time, Quantity, and Mode of disposal for regulatory inspection.



## How Can Other Businesses Help?

Oil keeps our cars, lawnmowers, and many other machines running smoothly. But, once oil is used, it must be discarded properly, to keep it from contaminating the environment. Recycling used oil is becoming the preferred way of handling used oil to protect the environment and conserve natural resources.

Used oils such as engine lubrication oil, hydraulic fluids, and gear oils used in cars, bikes, or lawnmowers can pollute the environment if it is not disposed of properly. Used oil must be recycled or disposed of properly by local waste management authorities or automotive repair shops. Used oil filters pose similar waste concerns. If properly drained, they can be safely recycled or disposed of. (For more details visit [EPA.gov](http://EPA.gov)). Keep waste manifest of all wastes hauled from automobile repair shops for regulatory review.

