Be Aware of the F-O-G - Don’t Cause a Clog

Fats, Oils, and Grease aren’t just bad for arteries; they’re bad for sewers, too. Sewer overflows and backups can cause health hazards, home damage, and environmental threats. Around half of all sanitary sewer overflows are sewer pipes blocked by grease. Grease enters the sewer from household drains and poorly maintained grease traps in restaurants and other businesses.

Where does the Fat Oil and Grease Come From?

FOG is a byproduct of cooking that comes from meat fats, lard, oil, shortening, butter, margarine, food scraps, baked goods, sauces and dairy. When washed down the sink, grease sticks inside sewer pipes (both private property and public sewers). It can build up and block an entire pipe.

The results can be:

• Raw sewage overflowing in your home or the house next door.
• An increase in operation and maintenance costs for local sewer departments, which leads to higher sewer bills for customers.
• An expensive/unpleasant cleanup that must be paid for by the home or business owner.
• Raw sewage overflowing into parks, yards, streets and streams.
• Potential health impacts caused by overflows

Caution: Home garbage disposals do not keep grease out of the plumbing system. Hot water and products such as detergents that claim to dissolve grease only pass it down the line and cause problems elsewhere.

You Can Help! Can it - Don’t Clog It!

Help prevent sewer overflows by:

• Never pour grease or oil down any drain. Instead pour grease into a can or jar that can be thrown away when cooled.
• Put baskets/strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids, and empty them into the trash.
• Scrape grease and food scraps from pans and plates into the trash for disposal.
• Recycle used and unused flow-able oil, like that turkey fry oil, through the City of Lawrence/Douglas County Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Please call (785) 832-3030 to schedule a drop off appointment time.
• Speak with your neighbors and friends about how to keep grease out of sewers.
Each year, the city's Cultural Arts Commission receives nominations and selects local artists and arts supporters for their outstanding achievements in the Lawrence community. The nominations are accepted in various categories including arts advocacy, arts administration, arts education, design arts, literary arts, musical arts, performing arts, visual arts, arts volunteer and a special category of Exceptional Artistic Achievement.

In 2017, three artists were selected for Phoenix Awards. The 2017 Phoenix Award winners are:

- Steve Richardson, Artist and Arts Administration
- Nicolas Ward, Visual Arts
- Jane Pennington, Design Arts

Three Local Artists Celebrated & Honored in 2017

www.lawrenceks.org/phoenix-awards

SAFE WINTER WALKWAYS GEARS UP FOR 2017

The City of Lawrence and the Senior Resource Center for Douglas County offers a program to remove snow from the public sidewalks for the elderly or others who may need assistance.

Volunteers will be matched with Lawrence residents who are unable to shovel snow. We make every effort to match volunteers with residents in their neighborhoods.

Those seeking assistance can sign up until November 17.

Sign up online at: www.lawrenceks.org/safe_winter_walkways.

Are you in the know?

Sign up for City News to get up-to-date announcements via e-mail.

www.lawrenceks.org/subscriptions

SHARPS = NO
Recently, the Recycling Facility has experienced an influx of needles in the recycling stream. DO NOT place needles, syringes, lancets, or any other type of sharps in your blue recycling carts. Used sharps should be packaged in a heavy duty plastic or metal household container with a tight-fitting, puncture-proof lid. Please tape the lid shut, label the container “sharps”, and then place in your TRASH cart.

BAGGED SHREDDED PAPER = YES
To prepare shredded paper for your blue recycling cart, place it in a clear, plastic bag and tie the bag shut. Loose shredded paper is difficult to sort from other items at the Recycling Facility. This is the one exception for plastic bags in the blue cart.

PLASTICWARE & PAPER PLATES = NO
Contrary to popular belief, plastic silverware & paper plates are not recyclable, even when clean. They are not suitable for recycling because of the odd shape of plasticware and the low quality of plastic and paper materials. Reduce waste at your next event by using durable, reusable plates and silverware instead.

PIZZA BOXES = YES
You can remove greasy spots, cheese and other food contaminates first. If your pizza box is clean and doesn’t contain a large amount of grease, it can be recycled in your blue cart. If it’s too greasy, simply tear off the top for recycling and trash the bottom.

www.LawrenceRecycles.org
Lawrence Recycles

SHARPS = NO

BAGGED SHREDDED PAPER = YES

PLASTICWARE & PAPER PLATES = NO

PIZZA BOXES = YES

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Our Mission:
Committed to providing excellent city services that enhance the quality of life for the Lawrence community.