

# **HOME COOKED DINNERS STICK TO MORE THAN JUST YOUR RIBS!**

## **THE FATS, OILS AND GREASE LEFT OVER FROM COOKING CAN STICK TO YOUR SEWER PIPES AS WELL.**

**Keep your plumbing and our public sewers free from blockages and overflows by properly disposing of fats, oils and grease.**

You never think that the dinner or batch of cookies you make will affect anything other than your waistline but, just as excess fat is not good for our health, it is not good for our sewer system either. All year long, people pour byproducts of cooking down the kitchen sink drain. During the holiday seasons it is even worse - larger quantities of these fats, oils and grease will make their way to the sanitary sewer system via the kitchen sink.

What happens is simple: fats, oils and grease, collectively known as FOG, is flushed into the sewer system through the kitchen sink and sticks to the insides of sewer pipes (both on your property and in the streets). Over time, the grease can build up and block the pipe causing sewer backups and overflows. Besides the obvious health hazards, backups and overflows of untreated sewage can damage home interiors and threaten the environment.

The easiest way to solve the problem and help prevent overflows of untreated sewage is to keep fats, oils and grease out of the sewer system in the first place.

- Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets.
- Scrape fats, oils, grease and food scraps into the trash rather than into the garbage disposal.
- Freeze small amounts of fats, oils and grease in a container with a tight-sealing lid, then dispose of it in the trash.
- Mix cooking oil with an absorbent material such as coffee grounds or cat litter, place it in a lidded container and dispose of it in the trash.
- Large quantities of used cooking oil – for example, used to deep fry a turkey – may be taken to an area recycling center for proper disposal. Please see the list below for the facility most convenient for you.

**COLLIER COUNTY LANDFILL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS COLLECTION CENTER**

3730 White Lake Blvd. (off of Collier Blvd./951, north of I-75 Overpass)

Naples, FL 34117

Phone: 239-252-8489

Open Monday through Saturday 7:00am to 5:00pm

**CARNESTOWN RECYCLING DROP-OFF CENTER**

31201 Tamiami Trail East

Naples, FL 34114

Phone: 239-695-4331

Open the 2nd Saturday of each month 9:00am to Noon, and 12:30pm to 3:30pm.

**IMMOKALEE TRANSFER STATION**

700 Stockade Road

Immokalee, FL 34142

Phone: 239-252-4145

Open Monday through Saturday 7:30am - 11:30am, 12:30pm - 4:00pm (3:15pm for Hand Unloading)

**MARCO ISLAND RECYCLING DROP-OFF CENTER**

990 Chalmer Drive (corner of Chalmer Drive and East Elkcam Circle)

Marco Island, FL 34145

Phone: 239-252-5153

Open Tuesday through Saturday 8:30am - 11:00am, 12:00pm - 4:30pm.

**NAPLES RECYCLING DROP-OFF CENTER**

2640 Enterprise Ave West (off Airport Road on north side of Naples Airport) Naples, FL 34104

Phone: 239-643-3099

Open Tuesday through Saturday 8:30am - 4:30pm.

**NORTH COLLIER RECYCLING DROP-OFF CENTER**

9950 Goodlette Frank Road North

Naples, FL 34109

Phone: 239-252-8617

Open Tuesday through Saturday 8:30am - 4:30 pm

The next time you are making dinner, please start making positive changes that will help put our sewer system on a "fat free diet." For more information on what you can do to help prevent sewer system backups and overflows, contact Samuel Jinkins, Collier County Public Utilities Division FOG Program Coordinator, at 252-6886.