

Why you should care about grease in the sewer...



- A grease blockage at your residence may require that you pay for a plumber to clean your sewer line.
- Sewage could back up into your house or raw sewage may overflow onto yards or streets.
- Sewage overflow could cause you or your family to come into contact with raw sewage.
- An increase in operation and maintenance costs for the county sanitary sewer system.



## **Jefferson County Commission**

### **Grease Control Program**



### **Environmental Services Department**

---

Grease Control Program  
1290 Oak Grove Road  
Birmingham, Alabama 35209

Phone: 205-238-3876  
[www.jeffcointouch.com](http://www.jeffcointouch.com)  
Report any overflow to: 205-942-0681

## Jefferson County Residents: We need **YOUR** help!

Fats, oils and grease are causing sewer backups in our community. Please help to prevent this type of damage from occurring by managing what enters the sanitary sewer system through household drains.



Jefferson County Environmental Services Department maintains over 3,000 miles of sanitary sewer and serves an estimated population of 479,000 people. The build up of fats, oils and grease in the sewer system eventually results in sewer backups that can overflow onto streets and even into homes, damaging properties and the environment. Through a proactive approach to preventing these damaging substances from entering the sewer, Jefferson County residents are asked to help in the prevention of these costly overflows. Grease-related sewage blockages are difficult to clear and clean up; and require special equipment and trained personnel. These costs can affect the amount you pay for sewer service. So, help us, help you by keeping fats, oils and grease out of our sanitary sewer system.

### Where does the grease come from?

- Meat Fats
- Lard
- Cooking Oil
- Shortening
- Butter
- Margarine
- Food Scraps
- Baking Goods
- Sauces
- Dairy Products



*Keep our rivers, creeks  
and streams healthy  
by preventing sanitary  
sewer overflows*



### What you can do at home to help...

- 1.) **NEVER** pour fats, oils and grease down sink drains. Remember sink drains and garbage disposals are not designed to keep grease out of the plumbing system.
- 2.) Scrape grease and food scraps from pots, pans and dishes into the trash can for disposal. Use paper towels to remove excess oils before placing in wash water or dishwasher.
- 3.) Allow grease to cool, then pour into a container and put in the trash or recycle.
- 4.) Use sink strainers to catch pieces of food and empty into trash receptacle.
- 5.) Talk with your friends and neighbors about the problem of grease in the sewer and how to keep it out.