

Stop and think. Not down the sink!!

Fat, oil and grease cause major problems to drains and sewers. When they are disposed of down kitchen sinks or drains they cause blockages.

Fats, oils and grease in liquid form may not appear to be harmful, but as it cools it congeals and hardens, it sticks to the inner lining of drainage pipes and restricts the wastewater flow causing the pipes to block. Using detergents or bleach may appear to help but this is only temporary as the mixture soon turns back to thick or solid waste

FOLLOW THE SIMPLE CHECKLIST BELOW WHEN DISPOSING OF FATS, OILS, AND GREASE IN YOUR KITCHEN:

- **DO wipe and scrape plates, pans, and utensils before washing. Put the waste into a waste bin.**
- **DO collect used cooking fat, oil, and grease in an appropriate container and dispose of in the waste bin**
- **DO use strainers in sink plug holes and empty contents into the waste bin.**
- **DO NOT put cooking oil, fat, or grease down the sink.**
- **DO NOT put food scraps into the sink.**
- **DO NOT pour boiling hot water, bleach, or detergents down the sink to try to dissolve fat and grease.**

Be wary of what goes into the sink and garbage disposal!

- Anything containing fats, oil & grease can accumulate in pipes, clog the drain, and cause a backup (see attached)
- **Do not put fibrous or starchy items in the disposal.** Both can cause particularly stubborn drain blockages (fibers get tangled, and starches get thick)
- Other items that can cause a problem:
 - o Animal bones
 - o Egg shells
 - o Stringy or tough-skinned vegetables
 - o Rice/pasta
 - o Fruit and vegetable skins
 - o Coffee grounds
 - o Paint, cleansers, or other chemical heavy liquids

Watch what you flush!

Be careful of what is flushed down the toilet, or dumped into the drain, to reduce the chances of the line becoming clogged or damaged.

NEVER flush these items:

- o Disinfecting/baby wipes
 - o Towelettes
 - o Feminine hygiene products
 - o Condoms
 - o Paper towels
 - o Diapers
 - o Dental floss
 - o Hair
 - o Cigarette butts
 - o Q-tips
 - o Prescription drugs
- ✓ As an extra precaution, we suggest purchasing a tub strainer for your bathroom tub drain to help prevent large amounts of hair from clogging the drain.
 - ✓ Please remember that furnace filters must be changed every three (3) months to help maintain the performance of your heating and air conditioning unit.
 - ✓ Please locate your water turn off valve inside of your property in case of a water emergency, such as a busted pipe. The turn off valve is usually located in the basement at the front of the house. If you have trouble locating the turn off valve, please contact our office.

Please note that any maintenance plumbing repair that is determined to be caused by tenant error, such as flushing or clogging the lines by any of the above mentioned items, will be charged back to the tenant.