

Contact:

Lyman McKellar

Marketing and Communications Manager

Lyman.McKellar@shreveportla.gov

318-423-9215

www.shreveportlawater.gov/



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Don't Pour Grease Down the Drain During the Holiday Season

As the holiday season approaches, the City of Shreveport's Department of Water and Sewerage reminds residents to be mindful of what they pour down their drains. Improper disposal of grease and fats can lead to clogged pipes, sewer backups, and environmental pollution. To raise awareness about this issue, the department is sharing some valuable tips to prevent F.O.G.

F.O.G. stands for Fats, Oils, and Grease – common byproducts of holiday cooking that often find their way down kitchen sinks and drains. The accumulation of F.O.G. in pipes can cause serious blockages, leading to costly repairs and potential environmental damage. To help residents prevent these issues, the City of Shreveport's Department of Water and Sewerage recommends the following tips:

- **Collect Grease in a Container:** Instead of pouring hot grease down the drain, let it cool and pour it into a heat-resistant container. Once the grease solidifies, dispose of it in the trash.
- **Use Sink Strainers:** Place sink strainers in kitchen sinks to catch food scraps and other solids. Empty the strainers into the compost or trash bin instead of washing them down the sink.
- **Scrape Dishes Before Washing:** Scrape leftover food from dishes and utensils into the compost or trash before washing them. This reduces the amount of food particles that can go down the drain.
- **Avoid Using the Garbage Disposal:** Garbage disposals don't prevent F.O.G. from entering the pipes. Instead, compost food scraps or dispose of them in the trash.
- **Spread the Word:** Educate family, friends, and neighbors about the importance of proper FOG disposal. Please encourage them to adopt these simple practices to clear the city's pipes and waterways.

By following these guidelines, residents can contribute to a cleaner environment and ensure the proper functioning of the city's sewer system.

"The holiday season is a time for joy and celebration, but it's also a time when we generate a lot of grease from cooking," said William Daniel, Director of Water and Sewerage for the City of Shreveport. "We urge everyone to be mindful of how they dispose of fats, oils, and grease to prevent clogged drains and protect our community's water infrastructure."

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