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| **Please! Help Prevent Sanitary Overflows** |  |  |  |

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| ***Fats, Oil and Grease Clog the Sewers!***  Sewage back-ups and overflows are typically the result of grease build up which can cause property damage, environmental problems and other health hazards. Fats, Oil and Grease can enter into the sewer system from commercial food preparation establishments and also private residences.  **Most grease is a by-product of cooking and is usually found in such things as;**   * Food Scraps * Butter or Margarine * Meat Fats * Baking Goods * Lard * Sauces * Cooking Oil * Dairy Products   All too often, fats, oils and grease are washed into the plumbing system and stick to the insides of sewer pipes both on private property and in the street.  Over time, oil and grease builds up and eventually **blocks the entire pipe** causing sewer back-ups and overflows.  ***Costs to You :***  As your sewer pipes back up, sewage and food particles that accumulate can attract insects and other vermin and may create a potential health hazard. Property damage can result from sewage back-ups leading to expensive clean up and plumbing repairs that may have to be paid by the customer.  ***Adverse Effects To the Environment :***  Clogged sewers can lead to over-flows. As sewage over flows onto the streets it enters the storm drain system where it is then carried into our local streams.  ***To the City of Hemphill:***  Increased sewer stoppages and over-flows lead to excessive and costly maintenance and could result in severe fines from State and Federal regulatory agencies.  These costs result in increases to the customer’s sewer bill.  ***Proper Disposal Methods:***   * Scrape grease and food scraps from plates, pots, pans, into a trash can for disposal. * Do not put grease and scraps down the garbage disposal. Pour grease into a container and dispose of it in the trash. * Do not pour grease into kitchen sinks, floor drains or toilets. * Be cautious of chemicals or additives that claim to dissolve grease. Some simply pass grease down pipes where it can clog lines further down stream.   For additional information or to Report Suspected Sewer Main Problems please call the  City of Hemphill at: (409) 787-2251 |