



A Fat Free Sewer System

Fats, oil and grease are not just bad for your arteries and your waistline, they are bad for the wastewater system too! Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) causes obstructions in the wastewater system, including clogged sewer lines and layers of thick scum in pumping stations, resulting in sewage overflows that can cause health hazards, damage homes and threaten the environment. FOG gets into the wastewater system from household drains and poorly maintained grease traps in restaurants. Commercial grease traps are required to be maintained regularly. Commercial customers can request a copy of the Town's FOG policy by calling the Utilities Department at 345-0146



This article is for you, our residential customers, to help you reduce as much FOG from entering the waste stream as possible.

Most everyone knows that grease is the by-product of cooking. Grease is found in such things as:

- + Meat fats
- + Lard
- + Cooking oil
- + Shortening
- + Butter
- + Dairy Products
- + Sauces and Gravies
- + Baking Goods
- + Food Scraps
- + Margarine

Too often, grease is washed into the plumbing system, usually through the kitchen sink. Grease then sticks to the insides of pipes, both inside the home and in the street. Over the course of time, the grease builds up and blocks flow in the pipes.

The myth that home garbage disposals keep grease out of the sewer system is just that, a myth. Garbage disposals shred solid material into smaller pieces, but do nothing to prevent grease from going down the drain. Also, commercial additives, including detergents that claim to dissolve grease, just pass grease on down the line to cause problems there. The results of this are:

- + Raw wastewater overflowing inside your or your neighbor's home
- + Raw wastewater overflowing into yards, streets and parks
- + Potential contact with disease causing organisms
- + Expensive and unpleasant clean-up that you may be responsible for, and
- + Increased operation and maintenance costs for the Town that could cause higher utility bills for you.

The easiest way to solve the grease problem and help prevent sewage overflows is to keep grease out of the system.

Things you can do:

NEVER pour grease down sink drains or into toilets. Scrape grease and food scraps from cooking surfaces and utensils into the trash for disposal. (Hot grease can cool in a can first)

Don't put grease or meat scraps down garbage disposals

Put strainer baskets in the sink drain to catch food scraps and other solids.

Educate your family and neighbors about the problems grease causes in the wastewater stream, and how to keep it out!

Utilities Department Contacts

Main Office (803) 345-0416

Emergency Response (803) 605-9711
(After Hours and Weekends)

Andy Metts - Director

Susan Wright – Utilities Coordinator

Theresa Hiott - Billing

Dan Lambert, PE – Town Engineer

Russell Wright - Operations

Matt Cameron - Maintenance

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

Sunday, May 8 – Mother’s Day

Monday, May 30 – Memorial Day
(Town Offices closed)

Sunday, June 19 – Father’s Day

Monday, July 4 – Independence Day
(Town Offices closed)

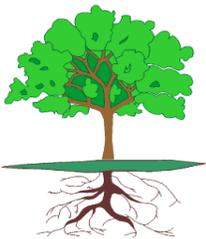
Town of Chapin Utilities Department
157 NW Columbia Ave.
PO Box 418
Chapin, SC 29036



KNOW WHATS BELOW!!!! CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!!!!

SMART HOMEOWNERS SAVE MONEY

- + Throttle back showers: Installing a low-flow shower head can reduce water usage from 3.5 gal to 1.5 gallons per minute.
- + Faucet aerators can save 600 to 800 gallons of water per year.
- + A slow leak of 10 drips per minute wastes 525 gallons of water per year.
- + A moderate leak at your toilet's flapper valve can waste 6,000 gallons of water or more per month.



SPRING NOTE:

Please do not plant trees, shrubs or other plants with deep roots within five feet of pipes, meter boxes, sewer services, valves, or fire hydrants.

Root systems seek water and can interfere with water flow and damage piping.



Billing concerns or questions in general can be made during regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 9AM to 5PM at (803) 345-0416.

Emergencies after hours or on weekends and holidays may be directed to the Town's Emergency Response Line at (803) 605-9711.

Keep informed of pertinent news on cable channel 2 or at www.chapinnc.com.