



700 West Liberty Street | Louisville, KY 40203-1911
Phone: 502.540.6000 | LouisvilleMSD.org

MEDIA RELEASE
November 24, 2020

CONTACT:
Sheryl Lauder
Sheryl.Lauder@LouisvilleMSD.org

Properly dispose of cooking fats and protect your home from sewer backups

Never pour fats, oils or grease down a drain

Keeping your home sewer line in working order is essential. When greasy wastes wash into the plumbing system through your sink or garbage disposal, they can stick to the pipes. Using your garbage disposal or a grease-cutting detergent does not keep fats, oils and grease out of the plumbing system.

“Garbage disposals shred solid material into smaller pieces but do not prevent fats, oils and grease from flowing down the drain. Grease dissolving detergents can pass fats, oils and grease through your household plumbing, but the grease may still cause problems in the sewer lines as they leave your home,” states MSD Operations Director Wastewater and Drainage Mike Griffith. “The grease and food debris builds up over time, making the pipe's interior smaller and smaller, which can cause a messy sewer backup into your home.”

Can the grease!

- Never pour fats, oils and grease down a sink, drain or toilet. Pour used grease into an empty, heat-safe container, such as a soup can, and store it in the freezer. Toss the can into the garbage after the grease becomes solid.
- Scrape your food waste into the trash. Wipe all pots, pans, dishes and cooking utensils with a paper towel to soak up grease before washing them.
- Catch the scraps in your sink with a basket or strainer, instead of using the garbage disposal, and throw them away in the trash can.
- Do not pour deep-fryer oil on the ground or in a storm drain. This can pollute our waterways and clog the storm pipe.
- Recycle your deep-fryer oil by taking it to Louisville Metro's grease drop-off locations. To find a full-service recycling center near you, go to <https://louisvilleky.gov/government/public-works/used-cooking-oil-recycling>

If you do have a problem with a sewer backup, call MSD Customer Relations at **502.540.6000** or send us an email at CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org. **Make us your first call.** Determining if the problem is located on the public side of the system will help to avoid unnecessary plumber expense.

For more information about disposing of fats, oil, and grease go to www.LouisvilleMSD.org/athome.

#####



About MSD

The Louisville/Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) works to achieve and maintain clean, environmentally safe waterways for a healthy and vibrant community. The organization's more than 650 employees provide wastewater management, drainage and flood protection services across the 376 square miles of Louisville Metro and portions of Oldham County. In addition to operating and maintaining Louisville Metro's sewer system, floodwall system, water quality treatment centers and flood pumping stations, MSD invests in hundreds of infrastructure improvement projects each year, plants more than 1,000 trees and other vegetation annually to enhance water filtration and reduce runoff, and provides numerous outreach programs to inform and educate the community about protecting our waterways.