



SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM | Grey. Green. Clean.

KEEP OUR SEWERS AND RAIN GARDENS WORKING

Best Practices for Kitchen Cleanup and Grease Disposal

When fats, oil, and grease are not disposed of properly, they form thick layers inside sewers, blocking stormwater and sewage flows. Clogged sewers result in sewage overflows, attract flies and vermin, and cause other environmental and public health concerns.

Similarly, improper cleanup practices and disposal of greasy water on streets and sidewalks cause damage when they enter catch basins or rain gardens along the street.

The following best practices can help restaurants and businesses involved in food preparation and cleanup, comply with the Fats, Oils, and Grease Ordinance, and contribute to safe and clean neighborhoods in San Francisco.



Sewer pipe clogged from improper grease disposal.

1 Wash-water from food service equipment, cookware and entryways must be disposed of through grease capturing equipment. This includes sinks and drains with grease traps and interceptors.

- **Remove food waste** with “dry” cleanup methods such as scraping, wiping or sweeping before using “wet” water cleaning methods.
- **Use paper towels** instead of cloth to wipe down work areas to avoid grease in your drains from washing.
- **Dry sweeping and spot washing entryways** is recommended instead of over spraying with your garden hose.

2 Clean trash, recycle and compost bins using “dry” cleanup methods. Bins cannot be washed on streets and sidewalks.

- **Line compost and trash bins** in paper bags, newspapers or special compost liners.
- **Use a paper towel** to clean bins and dispose of towels in compost bins (not recyclable).
- **Contact Recology customer service** to request delivery of a replacement for leaking or extremely dirty bins.

3 Grease also accumulates on floor mats and hood filters. These must be cleaned inside where the runoff flows through the grease trap or interceptor. Never wash these items on the sidewalk or street.

- **If floor mats are large**, cut into sections that will fit into the three-compartment sinks.
- **Floor-mounted sinks and tubs** are designed to accommodate a variety of janitorial supplies and kitchen equipment.
- **If space is an issue**, consider hiring outside vendors or wash items at self-service car washes, which have systems to capture all pollutants.
- **Ensure** grease hauler/trap cleaner is licensed.

4 Mop water and other kitchen cleaning water must be dumped down sinks and drains with grease capturing equipment. Never dump mop water on the sidewalk or street.

- **Post “MOP WATER DISPOSAL HERE” signs** at appropriate locations.

Report pollution, call 311.



THIS IS A GREEN STREET AND DRAINS TO OUR RAIN GARDENS.



Services of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

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Be a RAIN GUARDIAN and keep greasy wash water, oils, and pollutants off the sidewalks, streets, and rain gardens.

REPORT POLLUTION, CALL 311

