

# GREASE

in our sewer system is a major environmental problem...  
and besides, it's awfully gross!

**We need your help to protect  
the health of our community  
and the streams of the Upstate.**



Have you ever stopped and wondered where the fats, oils and greases that you pour down your drains are going? If your answer is NO, you are not alone. Though most of us are aware of the potential health risks of having too much grease in our diets, we don't

realize that putting grease into our sewer system poses a public health hazard and threatens the environment.

As grease from households and businesses passes through the sewer system, it sticks to the inside of the sewer lines. Over time, this grease builds up and blocks the sewer system causing raw sewage overflows and backups.

In order to alleviate these environmental problems, wastewater agencies must devote considerable resources and money to remove grease from the sewer lines. These increased operations and maintenance costs ultimately impact customers with higher user fees.

Renewable Water Resources (ReWa) and collaborating agencies are already to address the grease problem working with local food service establishments. In January 2000, the Sewer Use and Pretreatment Regulation was amended to include a plan for the collection and transportation of fats, oils and greases from food service establishments. Each business is currently being surveyed to determine the quantity of grease that it generates and whether a grease interceptor is necessary. Businesses that transport grease are now being required to obtain a permit in addition to a South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control permit. All grease must be hauled to an approved ReWa site. Unfortunately, these regulations only address part of the problem. Most grease comes from homes. This is where most of us can help!

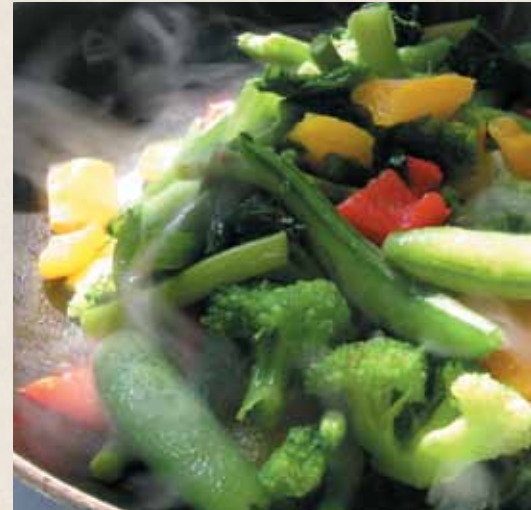


## HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Do NOT pour grease into sinks, garbage disposals or toilets.
- Instead let the grease cool and pour the grease into a disposable container, or a reusable container with a plastic liner.
- Then once full, dispose of it in the trash can.
- You can get a free reusable Grease-Be-Gone can with plastic liner from ReWa.
- Try to catch food scraps in sink drain baskets, and dispose of the scraps in the trash or compost.



[wwwReWaOnline.org](http://wwwReWaOnline.org)



### Collaborating Agencies

#### SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICTS

Berea Public Service District  
Gantt Fire, Sewer & Police District  
Laurens County Water & Sewer Commission  
Marietta Water Fire Sanitation & Sewer District  
Metropolitan Sewer Subdistrict  
Parker Sewer & Fire Subdistrict  
Piedmont Public Service District  
Taylors Sewer & Fire District  
Wade Hampton Fire & Sewer District

#### CITIES

City of Fountain Inn Public Works  
City of Greenville  
Greer Commission of Public Works  
City of Mauldin  
City of Simpsonville Public Works  
City of Travelers Rest

#### COUNTIES

Anderson County Sewer Department

**For More Information Please Contact:**

Kim McDonald • ReWa (Renewable Water Resources) • 561 Mauldin Road • Greenville, SC 29607 • 299-4000 ext. 224