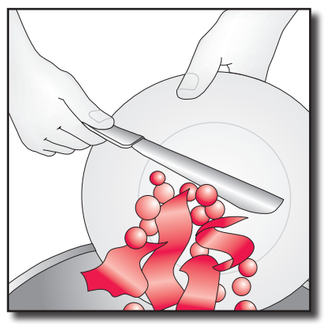
# Let's Tackle the Grease in This Kitchen!

## Why should I help?

- Prevent grease buildups from blocking sewer lines.
- Stop sewer overflows into streets and storm drains.
- Save money spent on costly cleanups of sewage spills.
- Reduce the number of times you have to clean your grease trap (food service).
- Protect the quality of our water.

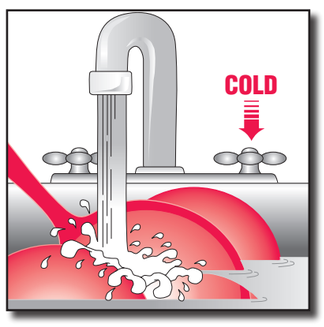
## DO!

✔ Put oil and grease in covered collection containers.



✔ Scrape food scraps from dishes into trash cans and garbage bags and dispose of properly. Avoid using your garbage disposal.

✔ Remove oil and grease from dishes, pans, fryers, and griddles. Cool first before you skim, scrape, or wipe off excess grease.



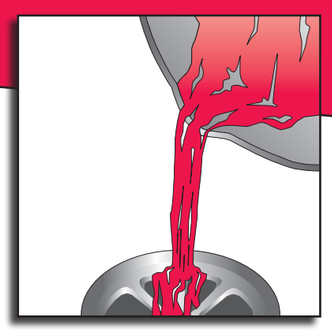

✔ Prewash dishes and pans with cold water before putting them in the dishwasher.

✔ Cover kitchen sink with catch basket and empty into garbage can as needed.

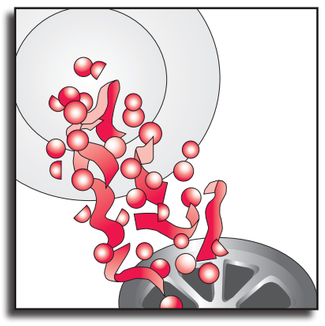
✔ Cover floor drain with fine screen and empty into garbage can as needed.

## DON'T!

Don't pour oil and grease down the drain. ✘

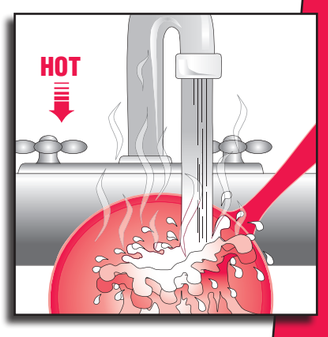


Don't put food scraps down the drain. ✘



Don't run water over dishes, pans, fryers, and griddles to wash oil and grease down the drain.

Don't rinse off oil and grease with hot water. ✘




## More Ways to Tackle Grease

- Use environmentally safe cleaning products instead of harsh detergents or cleaners that can damage sewer lines.
- If you generate large amounts of used cooking oil, reuse or recycle it. To find a recycler, check the phone book under "recyclers" or "rendering companies."
- If you generate small amounts of used cooking oil, reuse it as often as possible and then pour it into a container you can throw away. Never pour it down the drain.
- Start a compost pile at your home with scraps that are not meat. The TCEQ publication *Mulching and Composting: A "Take Care of Texas" Guide* (GI-36) provides basic information to get you started.


For more information, contact the
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
Small Business & Local Government Assistance Section
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TakeCareOfTexas.org


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