



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Holiday Cooking Oil Could Cause Pipe Problems

Deep fried turkey and other holiday meals are delicious, but leftover cooking oils, fats and greases can cause trouble if not disposed of properly.

Never send cooking oils, fats or greases down the drain. Even small amounts can cause problems in your home plumbing or further down the sewer line.

Cooking oils, fats and greases can coat and clog pipes and cause your sewer line to back up into your home, resulting in expensive clean up and repair costs. Fats, oils and greases can cause problems further down sewer lines and in septic systems too, causing overflow or backup of sewage into yards or streets and creating a public health risk. Even if the bulk of the oil makes it to the wastewater treatment plant, this influx of oil can disrupt the treatment process and cause equipment problems. To prevent any or all of these problems, dispose of your leftover cooking oils, fats and greases properly.

Just in time for the holidays, Thurston County in cooperation with the LOTT Alliance is launching a new service to residential customers. Liquid cooking oil can be recycled at the Thurston County Waste and Recovery Center, located at 2418 Hogum Bay Road NE in Lacey. Residents should look for the self-service receptacles located toward the back of the recycling area, near HazoHouse, and pour **liquid** oil in the container marked for used cooking oils. (Solidified oil should be disposed of in the garbage.)

The cooking oil recycling service is available Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The facility is closed on New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Used cooking oil collected at the Thurston County Waste and Recovery Center is hauled away by Arcom Oil and is refined and recycled into new fluids. For questions or more information, please contact Thurston County Environmental Health at (360) 754-4111.

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