



Don't Let Stopped-Up Sewers Steal Your Joy

#CanTheGrease for a Clog-Free Holiday

Nothing can spoil a jolly family get-together quicker than a sink that won't drain or a toilet that won't flush. Why do these things always seem to happen around the holidays?

It's simple, really: With all the extra baking and cooking this time of year, there may be more fats, oils and grease going down your drains. When the grease hardens, it sticks to the inside of the pipes — much like cholesterol does to arteries.

Over time the pipes clog, causing a nasty (and costly) sewage backup in your home — not to mention ruining your holiday cheer.

The Oily Truth About Grease

Grease is more than just cooking oil or melted butter. It's also in dairy products like milk and ice cream. That goo you pour out of canned goods when you open them? Full of grease. Peanut butter, fried foods, salad dressing, lard

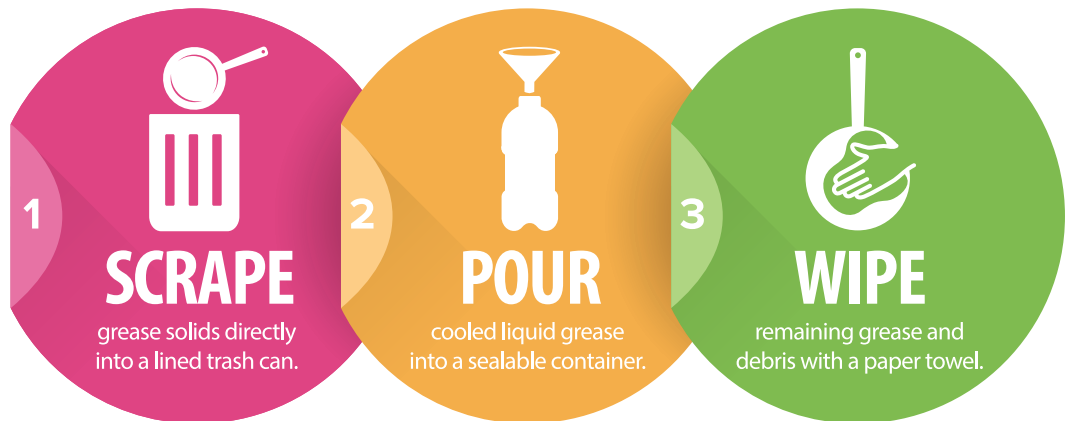
and shortening for baking, and even cake frosting all have grease.

If it contains fats of any kind, those fats will harden and clog your pipes. (And washing it down the garbage disposal with hot water won't help either.)

Be a Holiday Hero and #CanTheGrease

So how should you dispose of grease? In the garbage can. Solids can be scraped right into a lined trash bin. Pour liquids into a resealable container and put it in the trash, too. Wipe any remaining grease from pots and pans with a paper towel.

SAWS performs routine maintenance on sewer lines citywide to keep things flowing. By following these tips, you too can help prevent expensive (and disgusting) sewage spills. Your neighbors and holiday guests will thank you.



DISPOSE OF ALL 3 IN YOUR BROWN CITY TRASH BIN.

SAWS Offices Close for Holidays

San Antonio Water System offices and payment centers will close for the Thanksgiving holiday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 28-30.

SAWS offices and payment centers also will be closed Dec. 23-25, 31 and Jan. 1. Regular business hours will resume Jan. 2, 2019.



Payments can always be made online at saws.org or through our pay-by-phone service at 210-704-7297. For a full listing of pay agencies throughout the city, visit saws.org/service. As always, you can report emergencies or water outages 24/7 at 210-704-7297.



Get lots of **holiday plant gift ideas** at Texas A&M Agrilife Extensions Service's brown bag lunch and learn at the Bexar County Extension Office, Friday Dec. 13. Details at bexarmg.org/events.

Event Calendar

Holiday Shopping Market

Dec. 4

San Antonio Garden Center
3310 N. New Braunfels Ave.
sanantoniogardencenters.org

Kristkindlmarkt

Dec. 7

Beethoven Maennerchor
422 Pereida
beethovenmaennerchor.com

Family Saturday

Dec. 14

Blue Star Contemporary
116 Blue Star
bluestarcontemporary.org

WaterSaver Walk

Dec. 19

San Antonio Botanical Garden
555 Funston Place
sabot.org

Winter Owl Prowl

Dec. 21

Mitchell Lake Audubon Center
10750 Pleasanton Road
mitchelllake.audubon.org

Customer Service and 24-hour Emergency

210-704-SAWS (7297)
saws.org/waternews

SAWS Achieves Top Workplaces Accolade — Again!

Strong values and leadership. Great training opportunities. A positive working environment. These are just a few of the reasons employees rated San Antonio Water System a great place to work — earning the utility a Top Workplaces designation for the seventh time since 2011.

“Being named a Top Workplace is a significant

**TOP
WORK
PLACES
2019**

San Antonio Express-News

accomplishment — only 101 companies made this year's list,” said Robert R. Puente, SAWS president/CEO. “Our employees' commitment and desire to serve the community never ceases to amaze me.”

Sponsored by the San Antonio Express-News and Energage, the Top Workplaces program used employee surveys to recognize outstanding places of employment. This year more than 1,200 SAWS employees took part.

The Last Pipe Is Put in Place



All 142 miles of the Vista Ridge Pipeline is complete and in the ground — and on track to start delivering up to 20 percent of our city's water needs in 2020. The final segment of 60-inch steel pipe was installed Sept. 25 in Guadalupe County between New Braunfels and Seguin. The Vista Ridge Pipeline will deliver more than 16 billion gallons of water per year from the Carrizo and Simsboro aquifers in Burleson County. With the addition of Vista Ridge, San Antonio will have 16 water projects from nine different water sources.

Save Water Now, Save Money in 2020

While we're enjoying milder fall weather, your plants and lawns are already preparing for winter dormancy. That means they don't take in as much water this time of year.

So the best thing you can do for them — and your wallet, too — is turn off your irrigation system to eliminate excess watering.

SAWS sewer charges are based on your average winter water use, as measured across three complete billing cycles from mid-November to mid-March. So watering your landscape less in those months can save you money throughout 2020.

Do your wallet a favor and turn off your irrigation system. Hand water instead.

Billing Cycle	Winter Averaging Starts	Winter Averaging Ends	Month Billed
16	Nov. 15	Feb. 20	March
17	Nov. 18	Feb. 21	March
18	Nov. 19	Feb. 24	March
19	Nov. 20	Feb. 25	March
20	Nov. 21	Feb. 26	March
21	Nov. 22	Feb. 27	April
01	Nov. 25	Feb. 28	April
02	Nov. 26	March 2	April
03	Nov. 27	March 3	April
04	Dec. 2	March 4	April
05	Dec. 3	March 5	April
06	Dec. 4	March 6	April
07	Dec. 5	March 9	April
08	Dec. 6	March 10	April
09	Dec. 9	March 11	April
10	Dec. 10	March 12	April
11	Dec. 11	March 13	April
12	Dec. 12	March 16	April
13	Dec. 13	March 17	April
14	Dec. 16	March 18	April
15	Dec. 17	March 19	April

Note: Dates are approximate.