

Enforcement of Regulations

Environmental Quality Inspectors respond to calls or complaints regarding issues that may impair environmental quality and public health/safety. Windsor Fire Services will respond to the improper disposal of flammable/explosive liquids.

The Operations Department maintains and monitors the sewer system through video sewer cameras, which are capable of tracking problems visually. Grease blockages are identified and responsible parties are held accountable.

An individual who contravenes the City of Windsor Sewer Use By-Law can face fines.

To avoid the expense of such fines, follow your Best Management Practices outlined in this pamphlet.

Thank you for your co-operation. If you require further information please contact us at the numbers listed.

For general City of Windsor information:



For specific inquiries:

The Corporation of The City of Windsor
Environmental Services
Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant
4155 Ojibway Pkwy.
Windsor, ON N9C 4A5

Tel: (519) 253-7217 | Fax: (519) 253-0464

Website: www.citywindsor.ca



Windsor's
community
strategic
plan

Windsor's Community Strategic Plan (CSP) logo is composed of four arrows, to show that the plan is based on action and direction. Each arrow represents one of the plan's four "pillars." Blue represents Our Society; red represents Our Economy; green represents Our Environment; and purple represents Our Government. This brochure highlights how the CSP aims to improve our local environment. For more information on the CSP visit www.citywindsor.ca.



PROPER DISPOSAL OF
HOUSEHOLD LIQUID WASTE



WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

MAINTAINING YOUR SEWERS

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY DIVISION

ENVIRONMENTAL

The Sewer System

The Environmental Services and Operations Departments have responsibilities for maintenance and upkeep of the City's sewage system: 1,544 km of sanitary and storm sewers, 2 sewage treatment plants and 32 pumping stations located throughout the City of Windsor.

Sewer back-ups are key problems that damage infrastructure and can affect public health.

Back-ups of sewage can occur when the sewer lines are clogged with a build up of fats, oil and greases (FOG). In order to work effectively, sewage systems need to be in proper working order from the drain to the City's treatment plants. Normal sanitary waste can be handled without difficulty. However, FOG waste builds up on sewer walls causing blockages in the sewer system. For this reason FOG should NOT be disposed of down the drain.

The City of Windsor needs everyone to do their part to maintain the sewer system so that repairs will not be disruptive to residents or businesses.

Fats, Oils & Grease

Oils, greases and fats can not only cause problems for your home's plumbing, but also for the City's sewer collection system.

Blockages in the sewer system due to grease threaten damage to homes, create health hazards and degrade our environment.

Where do fats, oil and grease come from?

Residential fats, oils and grease occur as a result of cooking/preparing foods in our kitchen. They can be found in food items such as:

- Meat Fats
- Lard
- Cooking Oil
- Butter/Margarine
- Shortening
- Baking Goods

Household Chemicals, waste motor oil, solvents and gasoline

These items must be properly disposed of when disposal is required. Chemicals and solvents/gasoline can result in explosive or toxic situations, which could cause damage to residential plumbing and sewer collection systems. Disposing of solvents/gasoline onto property can result in seepage into residential sump pits/weeping tiles creating a potentially explosive environment within the home.

Never endanger your family members or neighbours by pouring flammable liquids down a drain, sewer or onto property.

A sewer explosion in 1981, blamed on an illegal release of the solvent hexane, destroyed two miles of Louisville streets. It took nearly two years to repair the sewer lines and several more months to finish street repairs.

Visit the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority Household Chemical Waste Depot at 3540 North Service Rd. East (EC Row and Central Ave.) for proper disposal.

Sanitary Sewers

Sanitary sewers are connected to your kitchen/bathroom sinks, dishwasher, floor drains and toilets. These sewers carry waste and wastewater to the treatment plant before going into a river or stream.

Small amounts of solids, grease and detergents are allowed down the sanitary sewer.

Storm sewers are usually located in the curb area of the street, in the parking lot area or in the alley. These sewers carry untreated rainwater directly to the river. It is important not to pour anything down the storm sewer.



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Your Responsibilities

- Scrape all food scraps and grease solids into the garbage, not down the sink drain or toilet.
- Never pour solvents/gasoline down the drains, sewers or onto the ground outside.
- Clean up grease spills using an absorbent material (e.g. cat litter, paper towels) and place it in the dry trash bin.
- Train your family members in good environmental practices.
- Use the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority Household Chemical Waste Depot to get rid of paints, waste solvents, oils and old gasoline.

Hours of operation and more Information can be found at the City of Windsor website: www.citywindsor.ca