



## Grease Campaign

Every year, the Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department launches a campaign during the holiday season to remind residents to properly dispose of cooking grease.

When grease is flushed down the drain, it can accumulate in our sewer lines, eventually blocking the lines and causing the back up of sewage into streets, homes and the environment.

During the months of December, January, and February, there is an increase in grease-related sanitary sewer overflows. These events correspond to increased cooking of high-fat foods that often takes place during the holiday season.

Please do your part this holiday season and throughout the year by being kind to your sewers and not flushing grease down the drain. Allow grease and oils to cool and pour them into a tin can, wiping the excess from your pots and pans with a paper towel prior to washing them. The tin can with the cooled grease can be disposed of in the trash.

The excess grease that is removed in this manner does not make its way into the sanitary sewer system.

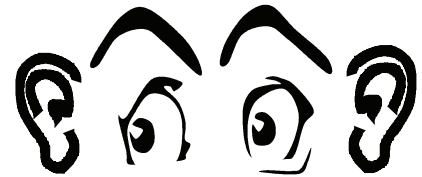
Our many thanks to those of you who joined us for this year's Day-After-Thanksgiving Grease Collection and Recycling event held on November 28.

The grease collected from this event will be recycled into biodiesel, an environmentally friendly, cleaner burning fuel.

For information on year-round grease disposal, please contact Greecycle at [www.greecycle.com](http://www.greecycle.com) or 628-4300.

Your efforts will help to keep our sewers flowing and our environment clean.

## You are Our Eyes and Ears



Every time someone vandalizes a sewer manhole, all of us wind up paying.

When vandals throw debris and other foreign objects into manholes and cleanouts, it causes backups in the sanitary sewer system.

Vandalism is a waste of the sewer fees you pay each month. Cleaning up backups caused by vandalism diverts staff from other important activities. Additionally, it is estimated that approximately \$1,500 is spent to repair the damage caused by each act of vandalism.

You can play a role in alleviating this problem by alerting authorities to suspected vandalism. If you see anyone lifting a manhole cover, and there is no Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department truck nearby, please call 911 to report the incident.

The Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department takes reports of vandalized manholes seriously.

Once an incident of sewer vandalism occurs, law enforcement is contacted and an investigation is conducted.

Depending on the outcome of the investigation—charges can be filed and fines and penalties assessed, in addition to a civil trial. In many instances, a reward is offered to those who report incidents of sewer vandalism.

## Sustainability and Your Wastewater

The mission of the Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (RWRD) is to protect the public health, safety, and the environment by providing quality service, environmental stewardship and renewable resources.

As stewards protecting the public health, safety and environment, we must follow sustainable practices to ensure we meet our mission.

Sustainability refers to actions and products that meet current needs without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet theirs.

Wastewater is water that has been used and contaminated. Wastewater must be purified before being used again or returned to the environment.

RWRD cleans the wastewater by removing harmful substances and compounds through our treatment process before returning it back to the environment.

We are committed to providing a sustainable future for our constituents by ensuring the quality of the effluent, the renewable resource of treated wastewater, meets environmental standards of cleanliness and safety.

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### Contact Us

*Please call 740-6500 during regular business hours.*

*If you have a sewer emergency outside of normal work hours, please call 295-4595.*

### Important Phone Numbers

General Information.....	740-6500
Roach Control Hotline (Automated line, please provide requested information).....	319-4601
Billing Section.....	740-6609
Sewer Emergencies (Regular Business Hours).....	326-4333
After- Hour Sewer Emergencies.....	295-4595
To Report Odors.....	326-4333
Sewer Outreach Subsidy (Low-income bill assistance).....	243-6794
To Report Vandalism.....	911

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