



Sink Drain Strainers

Sink drain strainers are recommended in sinks to collect residual solid food materials. While the drain strainer will not eliminate all solids, it is an effective and affordable tool that can greatly reduce food solids entering and clogging drain pipes as well as from entering the sewer system. Drain strainers can regularly be emptied into the solid waste garbage can. The use of sink drain strainers apply equally to both food service establishments (FSEs) and residential homes. To further reduce solids as well as fats, oils, and grease (FOG) material, all dishes/pots/pans should be pre-wiped with disposable paper towels prior to washing. The paper towels can then be disposed of in the garbage can.

For FSEs, reducing residual food solids and FOG in the drains can result in less frequent cleaning of the grease control equipment (GCE) including hydro-mechanical and gravity grease interceptors, thus resulting in cost savings.

When food solids and FOG materials (lard, meat fats, shortening, butter and margarine, cooking oil, baked goods, sauces, dairy products, food scraps, etc.) are directly/indirectly discharged via kitchen draining sinks, these materials can accumulate and eventually cause blockages in private sewer lateral lines and the City of Dothan's sanitary collection, conveyance, and wastewater treatment system.

Accumulation of FOG materials in private lateral pipes and sanitary sewer lines can result in sewer backups, overflows, and odor problems for indoor and/or outdoor environments. Additionally, these materials affect the City's wastewater treatment processes by reducing the efficiency of mechanical and biological operations. Ultimately, accumulation of FOG materials within sanitary sewer lines increases the cost of operating, maintaining, and treating wastewater processes. Additionally, sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) spills require cleaning, repairing, and/or rebuilding of damaged properties, pollute our environment, can result in fines from regulatory agencies, and can lead to potential civil law suits.

Remember, keeping excessive solids and FOG out of your sinks/drains, reduces associated plumbing, SSO, and wastewater treatment issues.