

## January 2018 Manager's Corner

Our District is off to a great start in 2018, welcoming a few new faces. Brady McCartney begins regular assignment to the Plant Operator role this month. Brady has achieved Grade 1 Certification with the State Water Resources Control Board and is working hard towards his Grade 2. Brady is receiving training from our experienced Grade 3's, Jack Wilbur and Josh Weatherby. While it takes 3-5 years to become a seasoned journey Operator, Brady is already making a big difference for our District with his existing skills.

The Board welcomed a new Director to our District, Mike Walker. Actually, Mike isn't as much new, as he is 'renewed'. He served on the Board a few years back, and we're glad to have him serve again.

Our latest informational insert with your monthly invoice focused on the sewer problems caused by fats, oils, and grease (FOG). FOG can cause sewer overflows and backups that harm our environment and create a hassle for Operators to keep sewage moving from your homes to the Treatment Plant. Please take a look at the flyer and incorporate the ideas. And always feel free to stop by or call with your questions.

Till next time,

Hugh

## Helping To Prevent Sewer Overflows And Backups Is Easy.

**Fats, oils, and greases aren't just bad for arteries and waistlines; they're bad for sewers, too.**

Sewer overflows and backups can cause health hazards, damage home interiors, and threaten the environment. A common cause of overflows is sewer pipes blocked by grease. Grease gets into the sewer from household drains as well as from poorly maintained grease traps in restaurants and other businesses.

### Where Does the Grease Come From?

Grease is a byproduct of cooking that comes from meat fats, lard, oil, shortening, butter, margarine, food scraps, baked goods, sauces and dairy products. When washed down the sink, grease sticks to the insides of sewer pipes (both on your property and in the street). Over time, it can build up and block an entire pipe.

**Caution:** Home garbage disposals do not keep grease out of the plumbing system. Moreover, hot water and products such as detergents that claim to dissolve grease only pass it down the line and cause problems elsewhere.

### The results can be:

- Raw sewage overflowing in your home or the house next door.
- An increase in operation and maintenance costs for local sewer departments, which leads to higher sewer bills for customers.
- An expensive and unpleasant cleanup that often must be paid for by you, the home or business owner.
- Raw sewage overflowing into parks, yards, and streets.
- Potential contact with disease-causing organisms.



### You Can Help!

#### Help prevent sewer overflows by:

- Never pouring grease and down sink drains or into toilets.
- Scraping grease and food scraps into a can or the trash for disposal (or recycling where available).
- Putting baskets/strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids, and emptying them into the trash.
- Speaking with your friends and neighbors about how to keep grease out of sewers.