

# Keep grease out of pipes

A Laker/Lutz News Staff Report

If holiday plans include deep-frying a turkey or anything else delicious, Hillsborough County has just the place to take the used cooking oil.

All three of Hillsborough's household chemical and electronics collection centers accept used and leftover cooking oil without charge to county residents. The centers are open from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. on these days during the upcoming holiday season:

-Dec. 3 and Jan. 7 at the Northwest center, 9805 N. Sheldon Road.

-Dec. 10 and Jan. 14 at the South County center, Powell Road off US 41.

-Dec. 17 and Jan. 21 at the East County center, CR 579 a quarter-mile north of I-4.

"Judging from the inner workings of many sewage lift stations, a lot of cooking oil and grease gets poured down the kitchen drain," said Kizuwanda Agee, who coordinates the Fats, Oil and Grease Program for Hillsborough's Public Utilities Department, in a release.

All cooking oils, including frying oil, salad oil, meat drippings, bacon fat and greasy leftovers, can cause problems in the sewer system. As they cool, oil and grease gel and solidify in plumbing systems and pipes. It's bad enough when a home's plumbing backs up, but the problem is even worse for public utilities when thick

layers clog wastewater pipelines and lift stations.

"The result can cause lift station pumps and other equipment to malfunction, sewage spills, overflows onto streets, and foul odors in homes and neighborhoods," Agee continued. "It's messy, smelly and costly to clean up."

The best bet for small amounts of grease, like bacon or hamburger drippings, is to pour it into a small can that is covered and stored in a refrigerator. When the can is full, place it in the regular garbage collection.

For larger quantities like those used in deep-frying, allow the cooking oil to cool completely, and then carefully pour it into a large, sturdy plastic or wax-coated container, such as the original container or a juice carton. Cap the container, label it as holding cooking oil, and take it to a disposal facility.

The large container can be used to hold additional cooking oil and grease until it's full; just store it in a safe, cool location. Don't mix the grease with any other liquids or products.

Hillsborough collection centers accept peanut and other cooking oil year-round, not just at the holidays. The locations are for the convenience of residents and cannot accept commercial waste. For more information about the centers and their schedules, visit [www.hillsboroughcounty.org/solidwaste](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/solidwaste) or call (813) 272-5680.



Follow us on facebook  
[www.facebook.com/thelakerlutznews](http://www.facebook.com/thelakerlutznews)



SINCE 1946  
**Franklin Jewelers**  
813-909-4888  
2153 Collier Parkway • Land O' Lakes  
[www.FranklinJeweler.net](http://www.FranklinJeweler.net)

MON-FRI 10AM-6PM • SATURDAY 11AM-5PM  
CLOSED SUNDAYS

**GIA & EGL**  
Diamonds Available  
**Jeweler on Premises**

**Laser Welder Repairs!**

We Buy Gold & Diamonds  
at the guaranteed highest price  
and paid in cash!

**Additional 10% Off Jewelry in the month of December**

**10% OFF ALL JEWELRY REPAIRS**  
Not valid with any other offers. With coupon. Expires 12/30/11

**\$5.00 OFF WATCH BATTERY**  
Limit 1 per customer. Including installation. Not valid with any other offers. With coupon. Expires 12/30/11

**FREE JEWELRY CLEANING**  
"While You Wait"  
Not valid with any other offers. With coupon. Expires 12/30/11

**Time to Separate?**  
**McBath Law Firm, P.A.**  
Wesley Chapel  
18 Years Experience Divorce Attorney  
Former U.S. Army Major • Free Consultation  
**813.929.6789**  
[www.WesleyChapelLawGroup.com](http://www.WesleyChapelLawGroup.com)

Who says color doesn't call attention to your advertisement?  
It just did.  
**Community News Publications**  
1930 Land O' Lakes, FL 33549 • **813.909.2800**

**Complete Automobile Maintenance & Repairs**  
Lutz / Land O' Lakes area  
Domestic • Foreign • Fleet  
Family Owned & Operated

Bob & Cindy Douglass

**AFTER MARKET/EXTENDED WARRANTIES ACCEPTED**

- Oil Change Services • Tires • Alignments • Brakes • AC Service and Repair • Radiators • Diagnostic Computer Scans

**WILLOW BEND AUTOMOTIVE**  
813-949-1111  
23124 SR 54 • LUTZ, FL 33549 • K-MART SHOPPING CENTER  
Monday - Friday 7:30am - 5:30pm  
[WWW.WILLOWBENDAUTOMOTIVE.COM](http://WWW.WILLOWBENDAUTOMOTIVE.COM)  
[facebook.com/WillowBendAutomotive](https://facebook.com/WillowBendAutomotive)

**Touch a Child's Life This Holiday Season**

Join Others Who Care at  
**CLAYS FOR KIDS**

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay**

Saturday, Dec. 3 • 8 to 1  
Tampa Bay Sporting Clays  
10514 Ehren Cutoff • Land O' Lakes

Come by yourself or with a team of 4!

This fun sporting clay event features 50 targets, opportunity to purchase Mulligans, shotgun raffle, silent auction and lunch

**\$125 per person • \$400 for team of 4**  
(portion of fee is tax deductible)

Register by calling or emailing Nicole McNally  
**(813) 769-3640**  
[nicole.mcnally@bbbsfl.org](mailto:nicole.mcnally@bbbsfl.org)

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay matches more than 2,000 children with trained volunteers who are professionally supported to provide vital, one-to-one relationships with children that measurably impacts their lives

Thank you to our sponsors:  
**The LAKER / Lutz NEWS**

**EARTH TECH**  
[www.floridasinkhole.com](http://www.floridasinkhole.com)

**PUBLIX SUPER MARKETS CHARITIES**