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**NEWS RELEASE**

**County to Begin Campaign to Keep Grease and Oils Out of Sewer System**

New Castle County Executive Tom Gordon is pleased to announce that the County's "Great Schools, Clean Streams" campaign to dispose of cooking grease and oils properly is scheduled to start on May 11.

From Monday, May 11 until Friday, May 22, residents can pledge to support their local schools by pledging to dispose of used cooking grease properly. The 10 New Castle County schools that collect the most pledges from their students' parents will win gift certificates to an online school supply shop worth up to \$1,300!

"Something as simple as alerting people to the fact that pouring grease and oil down the kitchen sink is a major problem will save us tax dollars down the road," County Executive Gordon said. "We believe getting the schools involved is very important because of the enthusiasm and creativity our students.

"I also want to extend an invitation to the winning teams to come into the NCCTV Studio to tell us about their winning strategies," he added. <http://tinyurl.com/mqblhwn>

Daniel Sullivan and Michael Harris, with the county's Department of Special Services, have been working with Water Words That Work to coordinate this public awareness campaign, per federal and state mandates. Special Services includes sewers, buildings and park maintenance, and engineering for the design and construction of county facilities.

"Here's what residents should do with their leftover cooking grease," Sullivan said. "Pour it in a can, and throw the can in the trash."

When New Castle County residents sign the online pledge, they can assign their pledge to any public, charter, or private school in the county. The five public schools and the five private schools that collect the most pledges will receive gift certificates that they can use to purchase supplies for education projects and class materials.

Homeowners will avoid the risk of clogged pipes, toilet backups, and plumber bills. The county reduces the bill that taxpayers have to foot to clean out clogged sewers. With fewer sewer spills, local streams remain pristine. Learn more at [www.GreatSchoolsCleanStreams.org](http://www.GreatSchoolsCleanStreams.org).