

San Francisco Pushes Grease Recycling

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SAN FRANCISCO (KCBS) -- Operation Grease-Cycle kicked into full swing Monday as residents were urged to turn their cooking grease into biofuel.



Supervisor Carmen Chu on a merchant walk in the Sunset District encouraged restaurants to sign up for a program to have their kitchen greases collected and recycled.

"It not only saves the businesses the additional cost of having to dispose of that grease, but it helps to save the city in general," said Chu.



<http://podcast.kcbs.com/kcbs/1495987.mp3> KCBS' George Harris Reports

Grease blockages cost the city about \$3.5 million a year to clear, said Tommy Moala, assistant general manager of the Public Utilities Commission.

"Grease to the sewer is very similar to the arteries. You keep consuming high cholesterol foods and what happens is that your arteries end up getting clogged. That's what happens to our sewers," said Moala.

More than two tons of grease were collected from 500 restaurants over the Thanksgiving holiday. The goal now is to get individual residents to join the program. Drop-off locations will be open the day after Christmas for four days at the Costco warehouse in the city and at Whole Foods market.