

## **NEWS RELEASE**

Office of Communications mbryant@mchd.org | 251.690.8823

## **September 24, 2020**

## MAWSS reports Sanitary Sewer Overflow caused by grease blockage

MOBILE, Alabama — Mobile Area Water & Sewer System (MAWSS) responded to a Sanitary Sewer Overflow on September 23 at 833 University Boulevard South.

Approximately 320 gallons of wastewater overflowed as a result of a grease blockage on the private main line. Officials say 220 gallons of wastewater was reclaimed, while 100 gallons of wastewater flowed into Bolton Branch Creek. MAWSS crews have cleared the blockage.

Grease blockages occur when foods containing fats, oil or grease are put down the drain. MAWSS provides free containers for grease recycling. You can learn more about the program by visiting www.itseasytobeungreasy.com.

Dr. Bernard H. Eichold II, Health Officer for Mobile County, advises area residents to take precautions when coming into contact with any standing water that may have accumulated as a result of this overflow. Those who have come into direct contact with untreated sewage are advised to wash their hands and clothing thoroughly.

Area residents should take precautions when using Bolton Branch Creek for recreational purposes because of the overflow. All seafood harvested in this general area should be thoroughly cooked before eating. People should wash hands after cleaning seafood and before preparing food.