What NOT To Do With Your Left-Over Holiday Food

Every year after the holidays, our PV maintenance staff responds to multiple and serious kitchen sink stoppages due to way too many turkey bones and leftovers disposed of in garbage disposals. Your garbage disposal can only handle so much – it is for small food scraps only. You do not want to overwork it and you do not want to put things down your sink that can cause harm.

Here is a list of items that should NOT go into the garbage disposal:

**Meat, bones and grease:** Things such as fat from meats and their bones (no matter how tiny) should never make their way into your disposal. Greasy foods will distribute a film over the blades, diminishing their effectiveness. Over time, it solidifies and builds up in your pipes. The bones, of course, can ruin the blades of your disposal. Never put down chicken skin, raw meat, or meat with gristle into the disposal.

**Stringy vegetable and peels:** Fibrous materials are the worst culprit when it comes to damaging your garbage disposal. This includes fibrous materials like asparagus, celery, corn husks, artichokes, and other vegetables that have any kind of stringy qualities to them. The stringy parts can wrap around the blades. The starches in the potatoes will turn into a thick paste and may cause blades to stick.

**Egg shells:** The membrane on the inside of the egg can wrap around the blades and wreak havoc.

**Coffee grounds:** These actually seem like they go down fine, but over time, the little grounds build up like sediment in the pipes, causing all sorts of trouble.

**Rice and pasta:** Basically, every time you turn the water on, the pasta and rice will continue to expand – even after they are ground up. Do your pipes and the plumbing system a favor. With all the holiday cooking, the more waste you can throw in the trash, the better. Or better yet - compost it!

Ride the Holiday Shuttle for Thanksgiving Break

UCI Transportation offers a complimentary shuttle service to the flagpoles by Aldrich Hall to support your return travel plans after the Thanksgiving break. The shuttle will be available at set times on Sunday, December 1st and Monday, December 2nd. Airport passengers will meet the UCI Holiday Shuttle at the Ground Transportation Center outside Terminal B on the arrival level of John Wayne Airport. You will need to cross regular traffic lanes to reach this location.

Train passengers will meet the shuttle at Shuttle Bay #7 at the Irvine Transportation Center.

Please consult the schedule and make your reservation today at: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-thanksgiving-break-uci-holiday-shuttle-from-john-wayne-airport-121-122-tickets-65684876233. For questions regarding the Holiday Shuttle, please email rideshare@uci.edu.

Returning Keys During the Holiday Break

Returning a loaner key, room reservation key, or a move-out key is the sole responsibility of the person that signed for the key.

An after-hours drop box for various key returns is located outside the Palo Verde office door. To return move-out keys, please complete the envelopes provided and place it in the box. Loaner keys and room reservation keys do not require envelopes. Just lift the lid and drop the keys in.

Green Bridge Closure - The PaloVerde / Middle Earth Bridge will be partially closed starting Monday, December 2nd through May 1st for maintenance repairs and painting all the metal components along the bridge, trellis and east/west ramps. The bridge will be for pedestrian access only. Please dismount and walk your bikes over the bridge and carry skateboards.

In addition, the bridge will be closed to all traffic starting Saturday, December 21st through January 1st.

Did You Know? Black Friday is the busiest day of the year for plumbers. Thanks to all that food we gobble up on Thanksgiving and stressing out the plumbing system, Roto-Rooter reports that kitchen drains, garbage disposals, and yes, toilets, require more attention the day after Thanksgiving than any other day of the year. You might want to remind your well-meaning kitchen helpers not to stuff food down the drain to save yourself an expensive plumbing bill.
Shopping Safety Tips - The holiday season is always a special time of year. It is also a time when busy people become careless and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime. We can never be too careful, too prepared or too aware. Here are tips to help you have a safe and enjoyable holiday season:

- Always carry your California Driver License or Identification Card along with necessary cash, checks and/or a credit card you expect to use.
- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member; there IS safety in numbers.
- As you shop, be alert in crowded places. Among pick pockets’ favorites are revolving doors, jammed aisles, elevators, and public transportation stops and vehicles, especially at rush hour.
- Stay alert. At this time of year, “con-artists” may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.
- Carry the day’s most expensive purchases closest to your body, and do not carry so much you lose the ability to react quickly.
- If possible, leave your children with a baby-sitter while you are shopping. If you take your children with you, keep a close eye on them at all times while shopping.
- When returning to your vehicle, carry your keys in your hand and be ready to unlock the door and enter as quickly as possible. As you approach your vehicle, scan the area, glance underneath the vehicle, and take a quick look inside before entering.
- If shopping alone and leaving at night, ask a security officer to accompany you to your car.
- Return to the mall or store for assistance if you spot suspicious activity near your vehicle.
- Stay alert while loading items into or out of the vehicle or arranging cargo stowage.
- If someone approaches, and you feel threatened, get in and lock up until they leave the area. If they loiter, drive away.
- Never open a trunk, fill it full of valuables, close it, and drive away.
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- Stay alert while loading items into or out of the vehicle or arranging cargo stowage.
- If someone approaches, and you feel threatened, get in and lock up until they leave the area. If they loiter, drive away.
- Never open a trunk, fill it full of valuables, close it, and walk away to do more shopping or other errands.
- Taking a few prevention measures can help keep your holiday season joyous and safe.