

## City of Ocean Springs

### Grease Control Program Ordinance

December 13, 2010

#### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this ordinance is to control discharges of **Fats, Oil and Grease (FOG)**, waste food and sand into the public sewerage collection system. FOG, waste food and sand interfere with the operation of the sewerage system and cause blockages in the system lines. This ordinance establishes regulations for the sizing, installation, maintenance and operation of FOG, waste food and sand interceptors.

#### 2. Definitions

The words, terms and phrases used in the interpretation and application of this ordinance shall have the following meanings:

- A. **Black Water.** Waste water from sanitary fixtures such as toilets and urinals.
- B. **Bulk Service Kitchen.** A facility which prepares bulk quantities of food, such as hospitals, schools or caterers.
- C. **Common Grease Interceptor.** A device which receives grease waste from more than one facility having different operators or types of operations.
- D. **Customer.** A user of the sanitary sewer system who produces waste from their process operations. The customer is responsible for disposing of the produced waste in accordance with all Federal, State and local disposal regulations.
- E. **Food Courts.** Areas in which multiple food preparation establishments having different owners may be sharing seating space and/or plumbing facilities.

- F. Food Service Facility (FSF).** Any facility whose operations include cutting, cooking, baking, preparing or serving food or which disposes of food related waste.
- G. Garbage Grinder.** A device that chops, shreds or grinds up solid or semisolid waste materials into smaller portions for discharge into the sanitary sewer collection system.
- H. Gray Water.** All wastewater other than “Black Water” as defined in this section of the ordinance.
- I. Grease.** A waste material composed primarily from fats and oil of animal and vegetable origins. The terms fats, oil and grease as used in this ordinance shall be deemed as Grease by definition. Grease does not include petroleum based products.
- J. Grease Interceptor.** A large tank or device designed and constructed to separate, trap and hold grease substances from the sewage discharge from a facility and to prevent them from entering them from entering the sanitary sewer collection system. Grease Interceptors must be located outside of food service facilities.
- K. Hauler.** An individual or company who transfers waste from the site of a customer/waste producer to an approved disposal or treatment facility.
- L. NPDES.** Stands for the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System.
- M. POTW.** Stands for Publicly Owned Treatment Works as defined by Section 212 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1292). This definition includes the sewer collection system owned by the City of Ocean Springs.
- N. Grease Control Program Coordinator.** The individual employed by the City of Ocean Springs who is responsible for administering and enforcing the Grease Control Program to ensure compliance by users with the applicable laws, rules, regulations, resolutions and ordinances related to the concentration of substances found in the waste discharged into the sewage collection system of the City of Ocean Springs.

- O. Sewage.** The liquid and/or water carried domestic, commercial or industrial waste from individual homes, commercial establishments, industrial facilities and institutions, whether treated or untreated. The terms “waste” and “wastewater” shall both be considered Sewage by this definition.
- P. Sewer Lateral.** A sewer line maintained and controlled by an individual or privately owned establishment for the purpose of conveying sewage from a waste producing location to the City of Ocean Springs sanitary sewer collection system.
- Q. Single Service Restaurant.** A restaurant or food service facility that serves meals only on throwaway plates, dishes and utensils.
- R. Standard Restaurant.** A restaurant or food service facility that serves meals on plates, dishes and utensils that are washed and reused.
- S. “Under the Sink” [REDACTED] Trap.** A container designed and constructed to separate, trap and hold fats, oil and grease that is placed under or near sinks or other facilities to prevent the discharge of these waste substances into the sanitary sewer collection system.
- T. User.** A City of Ocean Springs customer operating a “food service facility” (FSF) within the City of Ocean Springs wastewater collection system service area.
- U. Waste.** The liquid and/or water carried domestic, commercial or industrial waste from individual homes, commercial establishments, industrial facilities and institutions, whether treated or untreated. Waste may include but not be limited to discharges from sinks, dishwashing machines and floor drains located in areas where grease containing materials may exist. The terms “sewage” and “wastewater” shall be considered Waste by this definition.

### 3. General Criteria

**A. Installation Requirements for New Food Service Facilities.** All proposed or newly remodeled food service facilities located within the City of Ocean Springs wastewater collection system service area shall be required to install an approved, properly operated and maintained grease interceptor.

**B. Phased Implementation Plan for Existing Food Service Facilities.** All existing food service facilities located within the City of Ocean Springs wastewater collection system service area are required to conduct their operations in such a manner that grease originating at the facility is captured on the user's premises and then disposed of properly.

1. The City of Ocean Springs will inspect each Food Service Facility periodically or as necessary to assure that each facility is complying with the intent of the Grease Control Program.
2. The City of Ocean Springs will identify and target "grease problem areas" in the wastewater collection system through maintenance records and emergency call outs for grease related sewer problems. All Food Service Facilities located upstream of the identified "grease problem areas" that discharge their waste water into the "problem" lines will be subject to inspection of their grease interceptor sizing, condition and maintenance records.
3. Following the inspections, notification will be sent to the inspected food service facilities. The notification will contain an educational brochure on grease in the sewer system, a summary of the Grease Control Program requirements and the results of the inspection. The inspections will result in one of the following actions:
  - a. Facilities meeting the intent of the Grease Control Program through the use of appropriate and adequately sized grease interceptors and effective grease control practices will be commended for their compliance.

- b. Facilities not meeting the intent of the Grease Control Program will be required to submit a plan to the City of Ocean Springs outlining measures to be implemented by the facility to become compliant through improved housekeeping and increased maintenance and pumping of the existing grease interceptor. Follow up inspections will be conducted to determine if the plan is being followed and is successful in bringing the facility into compliance.
- c. Facilities that are not successful in achieving compliance through improved housekeeping, increased maintenance and pumping of existing grease interceptors will be required to install the necessary interceptor or equipment required to bring the facility into compliance. An appropriate amount of time for the improvements to be installed and made operational will be agreed upon between the City of Ocean Springs and the Customer.
- C. **Prohibited Discharges.** Black water shall not be discharged into the grease interceptor unless specifically approved, in writing, by the City of Ocean Springs.
- D. **Floor Drains.** Only floor drains which discharge or have the potential to discharge grease shall be connected to the grease interceptor.
- E. **Garbage Grinders and Dishwashers.** It is recommended by the City of Ocean Springs that solid food waste be disposed of through normal solid waste/garbage disposal procedures. The City of Ocean Springs discourages the use of garbage grinders that discharge into the sanitary sewer but in the event the device is used in a commercial or industrial facility, it must be connected to the grease interceptor. Using a garbage grinder decreases the operational capacity of the grease interceptor and will require an increased pumping frequency to ensure continuous and effective operation. Commercial dishwasher connections must be connected to the grease interceptor.
- F. **Location.** A grease interceptor shall be installed and connected so that it is easily accessible for inspection, cleaning and removal of the intercepted grease at any time. Grease interceptors must be installed outside of the building it serves. Location of grease interceptors must be approved by the City of Ocean Springs. The preferred location is on the outside of an outside wall and upstream from the black water drain line.

#### 4. Design Criteria

- A. Construction of Grease Interceptors.** Grease interceptors shall be constructed in accordance with City of Ocean Springs standards. A minimum of two compartments with a separation baffle and inlet and outlet fittings designed for grease retention are required components of the grease interceptor. All grease interceptors and grease removal devices are subject to written approval of the City of Ocean Springs. A standard drawing for the type grease interceptor required by the City of Ocean Springs is included in Appendix A.
- B. Access.** All grease interceptors shall be constructed in a location outside the building they serve in such a manner that they are accessible for maintenance and inspection at all times. Two manholes shall be provided on each grease interceptor for access. The manhole access points shall be a minimum of one inch above the surrounding grade and shall consist of a cast iron frame and cover.
- C. Load-Bearing Capacity.** If the grease interceptor is located in an area subject to traffic or other loads, it shall be designed to have adequate load bearing capacity.
- D. Inlet and Outlet Piping.** One inlet and one outlet tee shall be provided for each grease interceptor. Wastewater shall enter the grease interceptor only through the inlet tee.
- E. Grease Interceptor Sizing.** The required minimum size of a grease interceptor shall be determined using the following formulas:

##### EPA-1 Procedure for Restaurants (EPA 625/1-80-012, pg. 323)

$$\text{Number of Seats} \times \text{Gallons per meal} \times \text{Storage Factor} \times \text{Number of hours open}/2 \times \text{Loading Factor} = \text{Interceptor Volume (gal.)}$$

Gallons – Wastewater gallons per meal = 5 gallons

Storage Factor – Minimum = 1.7, Maximum = 2.5

Loading Factor – Minimum, other highway = 0.5

Maximum, interstate freeways = 1.25

Other freeways and recreational freeways = 1.0

Main highways = 0.8

**EPA-1 Procedures for Hospitals, Nursing Homes and other commercial Kitchens with varied seating (EPA 625/1-80-012, pg.323)**

$$\begin{array}{rcccc} \text{Number of} & \text{Gallons} & \text{Storage} & \text{Loading} & \text{Interceptor} \\ \text{Meals Served} & \text{per meal} & \text{Factor} & \text{Factor} & \text{Volume} \\ \text{per Day} & \times & \times & \times & = \\ & & & & \text{(gallons)} \end{array}$$

Gallons – Wastewater gallons per meal = 4.5

Storage Factor – Minimum = 1.7, Maximum = 2.5

Loading Factor – Dishwasher = 1.0

Without dishwasher = 0.75

The minimum size grease interceptor shall be 500 gallons. If the calculated required capacity is in excess of 1,500 gallons, multiple units may be used in series. The City of Ocean Springs shall evaluate interceptor sizing on an individual basis for food service facilities.

**F. Upgrades or Changes.** Changes or upgrades proposed to be made to any existing or new food service facility that affects grease discharge into the City of Ocean Springs wastewater collection system must be reported to the City of Ocean Springs.

**5. Grease Interceptor Maintenance**

**A. Cleaning and Pumping.** The user shall bear all expenses to maintain the grease interceptor. Grease interceptor maintenance shall include the removal of all contents including floating matter, wastewater and sludge. No waste shall be disposed of back into the grease interceptor it was removed from or any other grease interceptor in an effort to reduce the volume of disposed material.

**B. Cleaning and Pumping Frequency.** The minimum frequency for pumping out of grease interceptors shall be three months unless a more frequent schedule is determined necessary from inspections of the system. Request to extend the cleaning schedule beyond three months must be supported by maintenance records and approval from the City of Ocean Springs. The grease interceptor must be completely pumped out at each cleaning. A depth of solids measurement equal to or greater than one fourth (25%) of the interceptor's depth shall be considered to be in non-compliance. The depth measurement may be determined by mechanical or electronic measurement.

- C. **Disposal of Grease Interceptor Waste.** Waste removed from grease interceptors must be disposed of at a facility licensed to receive and process such waste. No waste removed from a grease interceptor shall be returned to any portion of the City of Ocean Springs' sanitary sewer collection system.
- D. **Additives.** Any additive such as enzymes and bacteria introduced into the grease interceptor or buildings discharge line on a regular basis for the purpose of treating grease and/or sludge must be reported on the user's maintenance record. The use of additives does not in any way relieve the user from performing the maintenance requirements set forth herein.
- E. **Drain Treatment.** Drain cleaners or acid used to dissolve grease shall be prevented from entering the grease interceptor.
- F. **Records.** A written record must be kept by the user which confirms and tracks the pumping, hauling and disposal of waste collected from grease interceptors. The user must keep a copy of the service manifest from the hauler. The user is required to utilize licensed grease disposal service providers.
- G. **Maintenance Log.** A Maintenance Record Log shall be maintained by each facility required to have a grease interceptor that tracks and documents all grease interceptor cleaning and pumping for the previous two year period. The Maintenance Record Log shall be readily available for inspection by the City of Ocean Springs and shall contain records of the date, time, volume pumped, grease disposal service provider and disposal site.

#### 6. **Administrative Requirements.**

- A. **Initial Data Acquisition.** Each Food Service Facility shall be inspected and a report completed by the City of Ocean Springs that contains all of the physical characteristics and a performance evaluation of the grease interceptor. A copy of the report will be furnished to the user and the original shall be maintained by the City of Ocean Springs.
- B. **Inspection/Permit Fee.** A yearly fee shall be established by the City of Ocean Springs for facilities producing grease discharges to recover expenses for the inspection of grease interceptors and the record keeping associated with the Grease Control Program.

**C. Monitoring.** The user shall operate, maintain and provide safe accessibility to inspection and monitoring locations (manholes) of the grease interceptor. Ample area shall be provided at the monitoring locations for inspection and sampling.

**D. Inspection and Entry.** City of Ocean Springs personnel with proper credentials and identification shall have the authority to enter a food service facility and perform a grease interceptor inspection or record review at any time and without prior notification.

## **7. Enforcement.**

The enforcement of this ordinance shall be by the administrative authority of the City of Ocean Springs. Any user found to be violating or to have violated the requirements of this program is subject to corrective action by the City of Ocean Springs which may include but not be limited to the following:

**A. Notice of Violation.** Any user found to be in violation of the program requirements may be issued a written notice detailing the infraction. The user shall submit a plan for the satisfactory correction of the deficiency within 14 days of the date of the notice.

**B. Consent Order.** Agreements such as consent orders, assurances of voluntary compliance or other similar documents may be entered into by the City of Ocean Springs and a user responsible for noncompliance with the program. The agreement shall specify the action to be taken by the user and the time allowed for the noncompliance to be corrected.

**C. Administrative Order.** When a user is found to be in violation of the requirements of this program, the City of Ocean Springs may issue an order of compliance to the user responsible for the discharge. The order may contain any requirements deemed necessary and appropriate by the City of ocean Springs to correct the noncompliance.

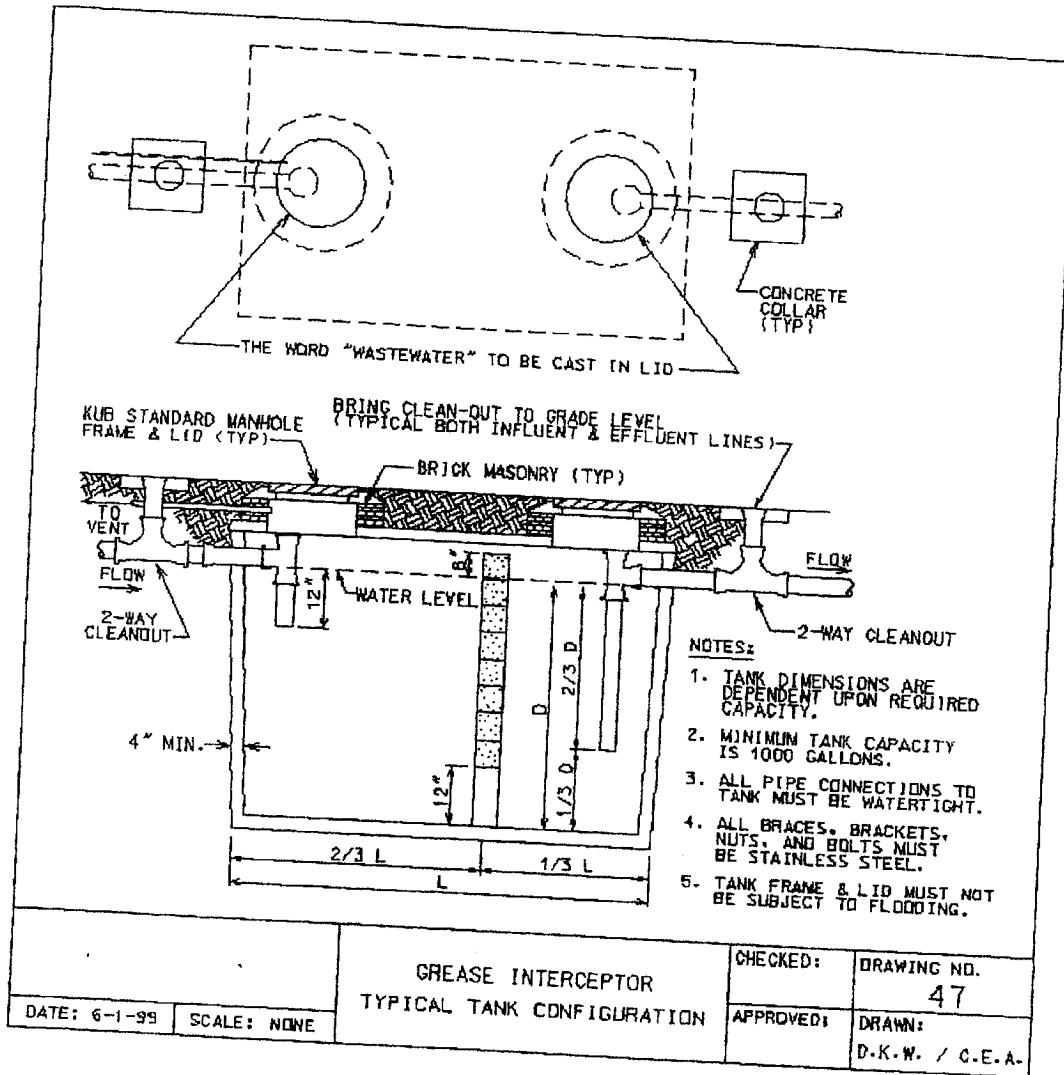
**D. Emergency Suspension of Service.** Water and wastewater services may be suspended to a user when deemed necessary by the City of Ocean Springs in order to prevent an actual or imminent discharge which:  
1) may present in the opinion of the city of Ocean Springs an endangerment to the public or the environment;

- 2) causes sanitary sewer overflows as a result of stoppages or requires excessive maintenance to be performed on the sanitary sewer system to prevent stoppages;
- 3) causes a violation to any of the conditions of the City of Ocean Springs' NPDES permits.

Any user notified of a suspension of water and sewer service shall immediately cease or eliminate the discharge. If the user fails to voluntarily comply with the suspension order the City of Ocean Springs may immediately terminate water and sewer service. Water and sewer services may be reinstated to the user when all conditions causing the suspension have been eliminated or corrected and the reconnection fee has been paid. The user causing the noncompliant discharge shall submit a written statement to the City of Ocean Springs detailing the cause of the incident and state the actions taken by the user to prevent future occurrences. The statement shall be submitted within 14 days of the occurrence of the discharge violation.

- E. **Administrative Penalty.** Any user determined to have violated any provision of this program or any order issued to the user may be assessed an administrative penalty not to exceed \$1,000.00 per violation. Each day on which a violation occurs or continues to occur shall be considered a separate violation. Assessments may be added to the user's next sewer charge and the City of Ocean Springs shall all collection remedies as are available by law.
- F. **Request for Hearing and Appeal.** Any user subjected to a penalty, order or directive of the City of Ocean Springs issued under the provisions of this program is entitled to a hearing before the City of Ocean Springs Board of Aldermen. Such appeal or hearing shall be requested in writing within ten days of the issuance of the penalty, order or directive. The requested hearing shall be held in a timely manner and the affected user shall have the opportunity to be heard. The City of Ocean Springs shall issue a written response to the user requesting the hearing.

# EXHIBIT A



## APPENDIX A