



Sammamish Plateau Water

FATS, OILS AND GREASE REGULATIONS

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SAMMAMISH PLATEAU WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT FATS, OILS AND GREASE REGULATIONS

SECTION 1 - PURPOSE:

The Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Regulations are designed to aid in the prevention of sanitary sewer blockages and obstructions from contributions and accumulation of animal or vegetable derived fats, oils and grease, which are discharged to the sanitary sewer system from industrial or commercial establishments, particularly food preparation and serving facilities.

The objectives of the Regulations are to use reasonable and technically feasible controls to:

- Eliminate sanitary sewer overflows
- Reduce the amount of fats, oils and grease discharged to the sanitary sewer collection system
- Reduce maintenance costs for the sanitary sewer collection system
- Improve operation of the sanitary sewer collection system

SECTION 2 - APPLICABILITY:

The Regulations apply to all food processing establishments, food sales establishments, food service establishments and any other facility that discharges polar and/or non-polar fats, oils and grease to the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District's sanitary sewer collection system.

SECTION 3 - DEFINITIONS:

- 3.1 Best Management Practices (BMP):** A technique or methodology that, through experience and research, has proven to reliably lead to a desired result.
- 3.2 District:** The word "District" shall mean the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District, a municipal corporation.
- 3.3 Facility or Facilities:** Any food processing establishment, food sales establishment, food service establishments, laundries, car washes, filling stations or commercial garages.
- 3.4 Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG):** Organic compounds derived from animal and/or plant sources that contain multiple carbon triglyceride molecules. These substances are detectable and measurable using analytical procedures established in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 136 (40 CFR 136). (Polar and nonpolar fats, oils and grease in amounts that cause a visible sheen on the discharge or in the public sewer system, a build-up of grease in any public sewer

facility, which accumulations either alone or in combination with other discharges cause obstruction of the public sewer system, or any water or waste which contains more than one hundred parts per million by weight of fats, oils and grease as measured using analytical procedures established in 40 CFR Part 136.)

- 3.5 Food:** Any raw, cooked, or processed edible substance, ice, or ingredient used or intended for use or sale in whole or in part for consumption.
- 3.6 Food Processing Establishment:** A commercial establishment in which food is manufactured or packaged for consumption.
- 3.7 Food Sales Establishment:** Retail and wholesale grocery stores, retail seafood stores, food processing plants, bakeries, confectioneries, fruit, nuts and vegetable stores and places of business and similar establishments, mobile or permanent, engaged in the sale of food primarily for consumption off premises.
- 3.8 Food Service Establishment:** Any establishment for the preparation and serving of meals, lunches, short orders, sandwiches, frozen desserts, or other edible products and/or are required to have a Food Business Permit issued by King County Department of Health. The term includes: restaurants, coffee shops, cafeterias, short order cafes, luncheonettes, taverns, lunchrooms, places which manufacture retail sandwiches, soda fountains, institutional cafeterias, catering establishments, food vending vehicles, and operations connected therewith; and similar facilities by whatever name called.
- 3.9 Grease:** Rendered animal fat, vegetable shortening, and other such oily matter used for the purposes of and resulting from preparing and/or cooking food.
- 3.10 Grease Removal Unit:** A device designed to separate fats, oils and grease from liquid waste prior to the wastewater entering the sanitary sewer system.
- 3.11 Gravity Grease Interceptor (GGI):** An interceptor to serve one or more fixtures and which is remotely located underground and outside of a food service establishment. It is designed to collect, contain or remove food wastes and grease from the waste stream while allowing the balance of the liquid waste ("gray water") to discharge to the wastewater collection system by gravity.
- 3.12 Hydromechanical Grease Interceptor (HGI):** A device located inside a food service establishment designed to retain grease from fixtures whose total capacity in gallons (gal) (L) shall not exceed two and one-half times the certified gallon per minute (gpm) (L/s) flow rate of the interceptor in accordance with the UPC. It is designed to collect, contain or remove food wastes and grease from the waste stream while allowing the balance of the liquid waste to discharge to the wastewater collection system by gravity or mechanical means.

- 3.13 Jurisdiction Having Authority:** The District is the Jurisdiction Having Authority as it relates to issues of fats, oils and grease under the District's FOG regulations and Chapter 10 (Traps and Interceptors) of the UPC. The District has full authority to regulate and control discharges into the District's sewer system.
- 3.14 Minimum Design Capability:** The design features of a GGI/HGI and its ability to or the volume required to effectively intercept and retain greases from grease-laden wastewaters discharged to the sanitary sewer system.
- 3.15 Non-Polar (petroleum or mineral origin):** Any water or waste from a petroleum or mineral source which contains more than one hundred parts per million by weight of fat, oil or grease as measured using analytical procedures established in 40 CFR Part 136.
- 3.16 Oil/Water Separator (Interceptor):** A large capacity underground vault installed between a drain and the connecting sewer pipe. These vaults are designed with baffles or coalescing plates to trap sediments and retain floating oils. The large capacity of the vault slows down the wastewater, allowing oil to float to the surface and solid material to settle out. Businesses that require oil/water separators include, but are not limited to, car washes, quick-lube stations, auto detail shops, automotive and equipment repair, service shops and any businesses using steam or pressure washers.
- 3.17 Polar (Animal and Vegetable Origin):** Any water or waste which has visible fats, oils or grease floating on the surface or adhering to the sides of the sample containers.
- 3.18 Rendering/Disposal Company:** A business that possesses the necessary license and certification for the acceptance of FOG.
- 3.19 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC):** Governs the requirements for the installation, alteration, removal, replacement, repair or construction of all plumbing. A reference to the Uniform Plumbing Code or UPC shall mean the most current version of the UPC in effect, excluding Chapter 1 (Administration) of the UPC which does not apply to the District's FOG regulations. In the event of a conflict between the UPC and the District's FOG regulations, the District's regulations shall prevail; provided that in no case shall the District's FOG Regulations be less restrictive than the UPC.
- 3.20 User:** Any person, business or entity that contributes, causes or permits the contribution of wastewater into the District's sanitary sewer system.

SECTION 4 - GREASE INTERCEPTOR REQUIREMENT:

- 4.1 FOG Control Program** - All facilities are required to submit a FOG Control Program to the District for approval. The goal of the program is to implement

reasonable and technically feasible controls for free-floating FOG. The basic components of the program should include:

- a. A written program articulating management and corporate support for the plan and a commitment to implement planned activities and achieve established goals through the implementation and enforcement of Best Management Practices.
- b. A description of the facility type and a summary of the products made and/or service provided.
- c. Quantities of fats, oils and grease brought into the facility, amounts contained in the product and quantities discharged to the sanitary sewer.
- d. A description of current reduction, recycling and treatment activities.
- e. Schematics of the process areas illustrating drains and discharge points connected to the sanitary sewer.
- f. Specific performance goals and implementation schedule.
- g. Initial training for new employees and refresher training every six (6) months.
- h. A City or County permit may be necessary in connection with certain activities required by the District's FOG Regulations.

4.2 New Facilities – Food processing establishments, food sales establishments, food service establishments, laundries, car washes, filling stations or commercial garages which are newly proposed or constructed, or existing facilities which will be expanded or renovated, shall be required to install, operate and maintain an approved type and adequately sized grease interceptor and/or oil/water separator necessary to maintain compliance with the District's requirements. Such facilities must purchase a side sewer permit from the District.

4.3 Existing Facilities with Grease Removal – Existing food processing establishments, food sales establishments, food service establishments, laundries, car washes, filling stations or commercial garages shall be permitted to operate and maintain existing grease interceptors, hydromechanical grease interceptor, or oil/water separators provided that the equipment is in efficient operating condition. All such establishments are required to develop and implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce the quantity of fats, oils and grease discharged to the sanitary sewer collection system. Any facilities that are known to cause grease related cleaning activities in the sanitary sewer, a grease related sanitary sewer overflow or fail to implement and enforce BMPs will be required to install a properly sized and functioning grease interceptor or a hydromechanical grease interceptor designed to meet the District's grease control requirements. Purchase of a side sewer permit and installation must be completed within ninety (90) calendar days from notification by the District.

4.4 Existing Facilities without Grease Removal – Any food processing establishments, food sales establishments, or food service establishments, laundries, car washes, filling stations or commercial garages that will be expanded or renovated or that are known to cause grease related cleaning activities in the sanitary sewer, or a grease related sanitary sewer overflow or fail to implement and enforce BMPs will be required to install a properly sized and functioning grease interceptor or a hydromechanical grease interceptor designed to meet the District’s grease control requirements. Purchase of a side sewer permit and installation must be completed within ninety (90) calendar days from notification by the District.

4.5 Variance from Grease Interceptor Requirements – Grease interceptors required under these Regulations shall be installed unless the District authorizes the installation of other alternative pretreatment technology after determining that the installation of a grease interceptor would not be feasible due to space constraints or other considerations.

The facility bears the burden of demonstrating that the installation of a grease interceptor is not feasible and that the variance will not cause the facility any problems in meeting the District’s requirements. The request for an alternate grease removal device or a hydromechanical grease interceptor shall contain the following information.

- a. Detailed explanation of the reason(s) that the installation of a grease interceptor isn’t needed based upon grease produced.
- b. Location of the sanitary sewer main in relation to available exterior space outside the building.

Alternative pretreatment technology includes, but is not limited to, devices that are used to trap, separate, and hold grease from wastewater and prevent it from being discharged into the sanitary sewer collection system. Any alternative technology must result in a discharge that meets the District’s requirements. The District must approve any alternative pretreatment technology prior to installation.

4.6 Standards

4.6.1 Gravity Grease Interceptor

4.6.1.1 Each facility is solely responsible for the cost of the gravity grease interceptor installation, inspection, cleaning and maintenance.

4.6.1.2 Gravity grease interceptor sizing and installation shall conform to the requirements contained in the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) or other criteria as determined on a case by case basis based on review of relevant information, including, but not limited to grease interceptor performance, waste stream

characteristics, facility location, maintenance needs, and/or inspection needs. The aforementioned determinations may or may not conform to the Uniform Plumbing Code construction standards or sizing criteria for grease interceptors or similar devices. Supporting sizing calculations shall be submitted to the District for review and approval.

- 4.6.1.3** Gravity grease interceptors shall be designed using standard engineering principles for sedimentation and flotation in gravity separators. The gravity grease interceptor will have a minimum of two (2) compartments with fittings designed for grease retention.
- 4.6.1.4** Gravity grease interceptors shall be sized and installed in accordance with the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC).
- 4.6.1.5** Gravity grease interceptors shall be installed at a location where it is easily accessible for sample collection, inspection, and cleaning and removal of retained grease. The gravity grease interceptor may not be installed in any part of the building, and the location must meet the approval of the District.
- 4.6.1.6** Gravity grease interceptors shall be located in the food service establishment's lateral line between all fixtures which may introduce grease into the sanitary sewer and the connection to the sanitary sewer collection system. Such fixtures shall include but not be limited to sinks, dishwashers, floor drains for food preparation and storage areas, mop sinks, and any other fixture which is determined to be a potential source of grease.
- 4.6.1.7** Gravity grease interceptors must be properly vented.
- 4.6.1.8** Flushing the gravity grease interceptor with water having a temperature in excess of 140 degrees Fahrenheit is prohibited.
- 4.6.1.9** In accordance with the District's Standard Grease Interceptor Detail, the gravity grease interceptors shall be equipped with a sampling port at the outlet of the interceptor. Inspection tees and manholes must enable the District to monitor and test the discharge for compliance with District requirements or to allow monitoring and testing in accordance with the rules and regulations of other federal, state or local agency having governmental or contractual jurisdiction within the District's service area.
- 4.6.1.10** Access manholes, with a minimum diameter of 24 inches, shall be provided over each chamber and sanitary tee. The access manholes shall extend at least to finished grade and be designed

to prevent water inflow or infiltration. The manholes shall also have readily removable covers to facilitate inspection, cleaning and removal of retained grease and sample collection. Riser maximum will not exceed 28 inches as shown on the District's Standard Grease Interceptor Detail.

- 4.6.1.11** Gravity grease interceptors shall be considered out of compliance if the total volume of grease and solids displaces more than 25% of the effective volume of the final chamber of the interceptor. Gravity grease interceptors must be serviced and emptied of accumulated waste content as required to maintain a minimum design capability or effective volume, but not less than once every sixty (60) calendar days. If a facility determines that cleaning every 60 calendar days is unnecessary in order to remain in compliance with the District's requirements, the facility may make a written application for a variance from the standard cleaning schedule.
- 4.6.1.12** Sanitary wastes shall not be introduced into the gravity grease interceptor.
- 4.6.1.13** Any facility that has a gravity grease interceptor shall utilize a licensed rendering and disposal company.
- 4.6.1.14** Wastes removed from a gravity grease interceptor shall be disposed of at a facility permitted to receive such waste. Grease, solids or liquids removed from the gravity grease interceptors shall not be returned to any gravity grease interceptor, private sanitary sewer line, any portion of the sanitary sewer collection system or any portion of the storm water system.
- 4.6.1.15** All facilities shall maintain a written record of inspection and maintenance activities and the rendering/disposal company manifest (including date of activity). A copy of such records shall be submitted to the District within fifteen (15) calendar days following the inspection and maintenance activity, and the records shall be made available for on-site inspection during all operating hours.

4.7 Hydromechanical Grease Interceptor

- 4.7.1** Hydromechanical grease interceptors shall be sized and installed to conform to the requirements contained in the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC).

4.8 Oil/Water Separators (Interceptor)

- 4.8.1** Each facility is solely responsible for the cost of the oil/water separator installation, inspection, cleaning and maintenance.

- 4.8.2** Oil/Water separators shall be sized and installed to conform to the requirements contained in the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) or other criteria as determined on a case by case basis based on review of relevant information, including, but not limited to separator performance, waste stream characteristics, facility location, maintenance needs, and/or inspection needs. The aforementioned determinations may or may not conform to the Uniform Plumbing Code construction standards or sizing criteria for oil/water separators or similar devices.
- 4.8.3** Oil/Water separators shall be designed using standard engineering principles for sedimentation and flotation in gravity separators. The oil/water separator will have a minimum of two (2) compartments with fittings designed for grease, oil and retention. The minimum capacity of an oil waste tank will be 550 gallons. The waste oil from the separator shall flow by gravity or shall be pumped to a higher elevation by an automatic pump.
- 4.8.4** Oil/Water separators shall be installed in accordance with the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC), under a side sewer permit from the District. ***The District has no standard detail for installations.***
- 4.8.5** Oil/Water separators shall be installed at a location where it is easily accessible for sample collection, inspection, and cleaning and removal of retained grease. The oil/water separator may not be installed in any part of the building and the location must meet the approval of the District.
- 4.8.6** Oil/Water separators shall be located in the establishment's lateral line between all fixtures and connected to all necessary floor drains which may introduce grease or oil into the sanitary sewer and the connection to the sanitary sewer collection system.
- 4.8.7** Oil/Water separators must be vented and shall conform to the requirements of the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC).
- 4.8.8** Flushing the oil/water separator with water having a temperature in excess of 140 degrees Fahrenheit is prohibited.
- 4.8.9** Oil/Water separators shall be equipped with a sampling port at the outlet of the interceptor. Inspection tees and manholes must enable the District to monitor and test the discharge for compliance with District requirements or to allow monitoring and testing in accordance with the rules and regulations of other federal, state or local agency having governmental or contractual jurisdiction within the District's service area.
- 4.8.10** Access manholes, with a minimum diameter of 24 inches, shall be provided over each chamber and sanitary tee. The access manholes shall extend at least to finished grade and be designed to prevent water inflow or infiltration. The manholes shall also have readily removable covers to

facilitate inspection, cleaning and removal of retained grease and sample collection. Riser maximum will not exceed 28 inches.

- 4.8.11** Oil/Water separators shall be considered out of compliance if the total volume of grease and solids displaces more than 25% of the effective volume of the final chamber of the interceptor. Oil/Water separators must be serviced and emptied of accumulated waste content as required to maintain a minimum design capability or effective volume, but not less than once every ninety (90) calendar days. If a facility determines that cleaning every 90 calendar days is unnecessary in order to remain in compliance with the District's requirements, the facility may make a written application for a variance from the standard cleaning schedule.
- 4.8.12** Any facility that has an oil/water separator shall utilize a licensed rendering and disposal company.
- 4.8.13** Wastes removed from an oil/water separator shall be disposed of at a facility permitted to receive such waste. Grease, solids or liquids removed from the oil/water separator shall not be returned to any grease, oil interceptor, private sanitary sewer line, any portion of the sanitary sewer collection system or any portion of the storm water system.
- 4.8.14** All facilities shall maintain a written record of inspection and maintenance activities and the rendering/disposal company manifest (including date of activity). A copy of the records shall be submitted to the District within fifteen (15) calendar days following the inspection and maintenance activity, and the records shall be made available for on-site inspection during all operating hours.
- 4.9 Delegated Authority:** The District's General Manager, or the General Manager's authorized designee, has the authority to approve any variances, discretionary standards, location of required FOG devices, a User's FOG Control program, and/or other conditions required by the Regulations.

SECTION 5 – ENZYMES, BACTERIA AND OTHER AGENTS:

The direct addition into the building plumbing, hydromechanical grease interceptor or gravity grease interceptor of enzymes, chemicals or other agents designed to emulsify the grease compounds are prohibited. Grease interceptor design and sizing criteria are based on gravimetric separation for grease and solids removal. The addition of enzymes or chemical emulsion agents would impede the gravimetric separation and defeats the purpose of the hydromechanical grease interceptor or gravity grease interceptor. Any attempt to modify the interceptor into a biological reactor by adding bacterial or microbial agents is also prohibited.

SECTION 6 – INSPECTION, MONITORING AND REPORTING:

- 6.1 Inspection.** The District shall inspect food processing establishments, food sales establishments, food service establishments, car washes, quick-lube stations, auto detail shops, automotive and equipment repair service shops, and any businesses using steam or pressure washers on both a scheduled and unscheduled, unannounced basis to determine whether the requirements of the District’s FOG regulations are being met.
- 6.2 Monitoring.** Each food processing establishments, food sales establishments, food service establishments, car washes, quick-lube stations, auto detail shops, automotive and equipment repair, service shops and any businesses using steam or pressure washers shall allow the District’s representatives and other duly authorized employees or agents bearing proper credentials and identifications access at all reasonable times or during normal hours of operation to all parts of the premises for the purpose of inspection, observation, records examination, measurement, sampling and testing in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations. The District shall have the right and access to set up on any User’s property devices necessary for conducting wastewater sampling inspection, compliance monitoring and/or metering operations.
- 6.3 Reporting.** Each food processing establishments, food sales establishments, food service establishments, car washes, quick-lube stations, auto detail shops, automotive and equipment repair, service shops and any businesses using steam or pressure washers shall retain maintenance records with the following information for each grease removal device located on the premises. Each time the grease interceptor is serviced and emptied of accumulated waste content, the service record shall be submitted to the District within fifteen (15) calendar days of the service occurrence and the records shall be made available for on-site inspection during all operating hours. The required service record shall conform to the District’s Standard FOG Pumping Report.
- 6.4 Variance from the 60-day Service and Emptying of Accumulated Waste.** Each food processing establishments, food sales establishments, food service establishments gravity grease interceptors must be serviced and emptied of accumulated waste content as required to maintain a minimum design capability or effective volume, but not less than once every sixty (60) calendar days. If a facility determines that cleaning every 60 calendar days is unnecessary in order to remain in compliance with the District’s requirements, the facility may make a written application for a variance from the standard cleaning schedule. The written application must contain the following documents/information:
- a. Six (6) months of service record history,
 - b. Best Management Practices documents, and
 - c. Permits and documentation for change of use.

- 6.5 Delegated Authority:** The District's General Manager, or the General Manager's authorized designee, has the authority to approve any inspection and monitoring requirements, variances to reporting requirements and/or variances to standard cleaning schedules required by the Regulations.

SECTION 7– ENFORCEMENT:

- 7.1 Enforcement Actions.** In the event that a food processing establishment, food sales establishment, food service establishment, car wash, quick-lube station, auto detail shop, automotive and equipment repair service shop, and any business using steam or pressure washers has a grease interceptor or other grease removal device that fails a visual or effluent sample analysis inspection, the User shall be given written notice of the non-compliant condition and must take immediate steps to bring the grease interceptor or other grease removal device into compliance. The User is responsible for all associated costs.

Failure on the part of any User to maintain continued compliance with any requirements set forth in these Regulations may result in the initiation of enforcement action. Such enforcement action may include, but is not limited to a Warning Letter, Notice of Violation (NOV), Administrative Fine or facility closure as provided in the Regulations. Failure to respond to corrective measures outlined in any enforcement notice may result in the User's termination of water service which is owned, operated and maintained by the District. The District may, at its sole discretion, hire a company to service the grease interceptor or oil/water separator and the cost of such service shall be borne by the User.

If an obstruction of the sanitary sewer collection system occurs that causes a sanitary sewer backup and/or overflow and such overflow can be attributed in part or in whole to an accumulation of grease in the sanitary sewer main line, the District will take appropriate enforcement actions, against the generator or contributor of such grease. These actions may include recovery of all costs associated with cleanup activities, fines, civil penalties or a discontinuance of water service.

The District's General Manager, or the General Manager's authorized designee, has the authority to authorize appropriate enforcement actions and to issue applicable fines under the Regulations.

- 7.2 Fine Structure:** Fines for violation of the Fats, Oils and Grease Regulations are set forth as follows:

7.2.1 First Violation: A Warning Letter and a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be given to the User with reference to the type of violation in accordance with the Fats, Oils and Grease Regulations. The fine shall be assessed to the User's utility service account, and any User being notified of such violation shall pay such fine, which will be included in the User's next regular billing for sewer service by the District.

7.2.2 Second Violation: A fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) shall be assessed to the User's utility service account for a second violation, and any User being notified of such violation shall pay such fine, which will be included in the User's next regular billing for sewer service by the District.

7.2.3 Third Violation: A fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) shall be assessed to the User's account for a third violation, and for each subsequent violation thereafter. The fine shall be assessed to the User's utility service account, and any User being notified of such violation shall pay such fine, which will be included in the User's next regular billing for sewer service by the District.

7.2.4 Payment and Collection Procedures: Any fines imposed by the District against a User shall be due within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of the District sewer service billing including such fine. If the fine is not paid within 30 calendar days, the fine shall then be delinquent, and the District shall enforce the collection of such fine(s) in the manner provided by the Regulations, District resolutions and policies, or other applicable law.

7.3 Appeal Procedure: In the event a User against whom a fine for violation of the Fats, Oils and Grease Regulations has been imposed contests the amount of such fine or related District enforcement action, such User may request a hearing before the Board of Commissioners. The User must file the appeal in writing with the District, giving the name of the property owner, address of the property where the alleged violation occurred, the total amount of the violation fine, and a statement by the User as to why the User feels the fine(s) and/or enforcement action should not have been assessed and/or taken. Such appeal must be filed with the District within five (5) calendar days after the receipt by the User of: (A) the District service billing which includes such fine(s), or (B) notice of any enforcement action taken by the District, such as service disconnection, whichever event occurs first. The Board, upon such a hearing being requested by the customer, shall set a time, place, and date for such a hearing after at least seven (7) calendar days written notice of such hearing has been provided to such User, and the Board will hear such appeal. At the conclusion of such hearing, the Board may confirm, correct, modify, or rescind such fine or enforcement action as the Board in its discretion deems appropriate under the circumstances. Such appeal procedure must be followed by any User contesting such fine and/or enforcement action; and a hearing must be held and a determination made by the Board prior to such User taking or filing any judicial action regarding any fine or enforcement action.