



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

WASTE GREASE

Grease Trap Maintenance

Proper cleaning and maintenance of grease traps and drain lines reduces the amount of solids and grease going into the public sewer system and minimizes the likelihood of back-ups, blockages or pipe corrosion. Most sanitation districts and municipalities require businesses that produce fats, oils and grease to install grease traps. They also require the traps be periodically inspected and maintained because oil and grease in wastewater can eventually clog the pipes.



Maintenance Options

Grease traps need to be cleaned by removing the grease and solids on a regular basis. The transport and disposal of waste grease is strictly regulated: If you have more than 55 gallons to dispose, you **must** hire a registered waste grease transporter to remove and dispose of it. If you don't use a registered transporter, enforcement action can be taken. For a list of registered waste grease transporters, visit:

www.colorado.gov/cdphe/wastegrease

Waste Grease Disposal

Waste grease must be sent to a registered waste grease collection facility or wastewater treatment facility for disposal. Collection facilities are commonly composting facilities, biodiesel manufacturers or landfills that have registered with the Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division to accept waste grease.

Reasons to Comply

Fixing a sewer line blockage can be expensive. If the pipe clog is within your building's sewer line, you will be responsible for paying to fix the problem. If the clog is in the public sewer line and can be traced to your business, you will be liable for paying the repair costs. Waste grease, if released, can also contaminate soil and groundwater. Enforcement actions can be taken against a waste grease generator who does not use a transporter registered with the state health department. Proper waste grease disposal is Colorado law - if you break it, you could be fined. Accumulating the oil and grease close to the source in a properly-maintained grease trap is the most cost-effective way to prevent this.

Additional Information:

www.colorado.gov/cdphe/wastegrease

Contact:

comments.hmwmnd@state.co.us

Customer Technical Assistance: 303-692-3320

Toll-Free: 888-569-1831, ext. 3320



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