



Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Control Ordinance 2011

Instructions for Category 2 Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Dischargers

YOUR RESTAURANT HAS BEEN EVALUATED BY A SEWER DEPARTMENT INSPECTOR FROM SAN FRANCISCO WATER, POWER AND SEWER AND FOUND TO BE A CATEGORY 2 FOG DISCHARGER. THIS MEANS THAT:

Your kitchen produces a significant amount of fats, oils and grease (FOG), but you currently do have grease capturing equipment installed.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO NOW

The City is very glad that your business has already taken steps to keep FOG out of City sewers by installing grease capturing equipment. Thank you! A Sewer Inspector will walk you through additional steps to ensure that your equipment is capturing all necessary FOG discharges and that you are in compliance with all related local codes.

1. A Sewer Inspector will assess how FOG is being managed in your kitchen and how well you are operating and maintaining your grease capturing equipment.
 - Are all kitchen fixtures with FOG waste in the discharge pipes connected to grease capturing equipment?
 - Was your grease capturing equipment properly installed?
 - Is the equipment fully operational?
 - Is the equipment properly maintained?
 - Is the equipment being serviced adequately (waste removed frequently enough)?
2. Based on the assessment done by the Sewer Inspector, you may be directed to take some actions to correct areas of non-compliance. For example, you may be directed to make repairs to your grease capturing equipment or to increase the cleaning frequency.
3. SF Water, Power and Sewer will issue your business a Wastewater Discharger Permit at no cost to you. The permit includes a list of General Requirements, Prohibitions and Limitations, and Operations and Maintenance requirements related to handling of fats, oils and grease and operation of your grease capturing equipment. Follow these rules at all times.
4. You may be required to install a new grease capturing equipment if your existing equipment is no longer fully operational or there are FOG waste containing discharge lines that are not being captured by the existing equipment. If this is the case, you will be required to install a Grease Removal Device (GRD)¹; no passive hydromechanical grease traps can be installed. Grease Removal Devices must be certified by a recognized third party testing agency to show conformance to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) standards ASME 112.14.3 and ASME 112.14.4.
 - For a list of manufacturers of Grease Removal Devices go to sfwater.org.

¹ A large Gravity Grease Interceptor can also be installed instead of a GRD, but due to the large size of Gravity Grease Interceptors (300 gallons or greater in capacity) this is not usually an option for restaurants in San Francisco.

IF YOU INSTALL A GRD, YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A REDUCTION IN YOUR SEWER BILL

The cost of purchasing and installing a Grease Removal Device (or Gravity Grease Interceptor) could be offset by the fact that the sewer service portion of your water/sewer bill with the City will be reduced by approximately 14.2 percent if your business has its own water/sewer account with the City.

Once the Sewer Inspector has received verification from you that an approved type of GRD has been installed, and has been inspected and approved by the Department of Building Inspection (or the Port if your business is located on Port property), this reduction will be applied to your future bill, provided the GRD is properly maintained and serviced.

THERE ARE OPTIONS FOR LEASING THE EQUIPMENT OR GETTING LOANS

We have identified organizations and companies that can offer your business loans and or lease-to-buy options for your grease capturing equipment.

- For more information go to sfwater.org.

NON-COMPLIANCE CAN RESULT IN ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS AND FINES

If your business does not comply with the conditions of the Wastewater Discharge Permit issued to your establishment, SF Water, Power and Sewer can take enforcement actions, up to and including the assessment of fines. If you are in violation of requirements related to having adequate grease capturing equipment installed, the Department of Building Inspection (or the Port if your business is located on Port property) can also take actions including code enforcement hearings, which can result in accrual of fines and penalties.

YOU MAY REQUEST A VARIANCE IF INSTALLATION OF A GRD IS NOT FEASIBLE

If you are required to install a Grease Removal Device, your business may file a request to SF Water, Power and Sewer for a variance from installing the GRD, if you can demonstrate that the installation is not feasible due to lack of physical space. We may then require that you install an appropriately sized passive grease trap.



Services of the San Francisco
Public Utilities Commission

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sfwater.org

Learn more about the FOG Control Ordinance and how to comply at sfwater.org or contact us via email at FOGOrdinance@sfwater.org or by phone at 415-695-7310 for assistance in selecting and installing appropriate grease capturing equipment.