Requirements for Commercial Customers

Follow the tips for residential customers, plus these do’s, don’ts and musts.

- Don’t wash dishes, pots and pans in a sink that has a food grinder. Often, these drains are not connected to a grease trap.
- Don’t use hot water to flush grease from the grease trap.
- Don’t use industrial strength drain cleaners in floor drains. They only emulsify or melt grease. When it cools, it becomes solid again (inside sewer lines) and can cause a blockage.
- Do have a separate oil and grease tank. These tanks, with no plumbing connections, are available from companies that recycle cooking oil and grease.
- Do keep a constant eye on your grease traps (check them visually at least once a month).

Grease Trap Inspection Program

In accordance with the City of Fayetteville’s Sewer Use Ordinance, you must:

- Have your grease traps cleaned every 60 days.
- Maintain documentation of trap cleaning on site.
- Comply with the 250 mg/L oil and grease limit covered in the Sewer Use Ordinance.

City of Fayetteville Sewer Use Ordinance

The following sections of the SUO specifically address the discharge of fat, grease and oil into our sewer collection system.

Section 28-73 Prohibited Discharge Standards

B) Specific Prohibitions

2) Solid or viscous substances in amounts that may cause obstruction to the flow in a sewer.
3) Petroleum oil, non-biodegradable cutting oil, or products of mineral oil origin, in amounts that will cause interference or pass through.
14) Fats, oils, or greases of animal or vegetable origin in concentrations greater than two hundred fifty (250) mg/L.

Section 28-85 Grease and Oil Removal

B) For grease traps, the service shall be completed and documented at an interval not to exceed 60 days unless approval is obtained in writing from PWC. PWC may require more frequent cleaning as deemed necessary. For under-the-sink interceptors, the service shall be completed and documented daily or at a frequency recommended by the manufacturer.
F) The user shall maintain a written record on the site, of trap or interceptor maintenance, for three years.

Section 28-161

a) Any user who is found to have failed to comply with any provision of this Article, or the orders, rules, regulations and permits issued hereunder, may be fined up to twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000) per day per violation.

For more information or a complete copy of Fayetteville’s Sewer Use Ordinance, contact the PWC Industrial Pretreatment Coordinator at 223-4703.
Pouring Grease Down the Drain? OUCH!

PWC encourages everyone to help protect our water quality. It’s more than a good idea, it’s the law.

Don’t fry our sewer lines!

The City of Fayetteville’s Sewer Use Ordinance (SUO) includes provisions prohibiting the discharge of fats and grease into our sanitary sewer system.

We’re including relevant sections of the Fayetteville SUO in this brochure – along with guidelines for residential and commercial customers. For commercial customers (particularly those involved in food processing and preparation), the guidelines include the grease trap inspection requirements.

With everyone’s cooperation (and compliance with the law), we can all help keep our water clean and safe from wastewater overflow – and help keep our utility rates down. Follow these important guidelines, so you don’t cause a pain in the drain!

Food Disposal Guidelines for Residential Customers

Don’t pour fat, grease and used cooking oil in a disposable container (empty plastic containers from butter, cheese and other foods work well), and put it in the garbage.

• Pour fat, grease and used cooking oil in a disposable container (empty plastic containers from butter, cheese and other foods work well), and put it in the garbage.

• Wipe grease from pots and pans with a paper towel before you wash them.

Peelings and leftovers down the drain? Scrap that idea!

• Compost your vegetable scraps or throw them in the trash.

• Never throw meat scraps down the drain.

Think heavy-duty drain cleaners “melt” the grease? Fat chance! It can re-solidify inside sewer lines and block them up.

Don’t get fried! Fayetteville’s Sewer Use Ordinance (Section 28) specifically prohibits the “discharge of solid or viscous substances in amounts that may cause obstruction to the flow in a sewer,”

Help “Cease the Grease”

PWC offers free Fat Trappers, a covered storage container for disposing of your cooking grease and oils.

To receive a complimentary Fat Trapper, visit our Customer Service Center at 955 Old Wilmington Road. To receive complimentary foil replacement bags, contact PWC at 910-223-4703.

Pouring grease, oil or fat down the drain hurts. That’s why you should let it cool, pour it in a disposable container and throw it in the trash.

Fat, grease and oil are a major cause of sewer line blockages. (The same goes for solid debris flushed down drains or toilets.) When grease accumulates in our sewer lines, it can cause wastewater back up, resulting in overflow that affects the quality of our water. Cleaning up the overflow of wastewater is labor intensive and costly. And these costs could eventually end up reflected on sewer customers’ bills, in the form of higher sewer and water rates.