

CITY OF LAKEWOOD - GREASE INTERCEPTORS DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE HANDOUT

Revised August 20, 2024

General Information

When Fats, Oils and Grease, commonly referred to as FOG, enter the sanitary sewer system through waste drains from commercial establishments, significant build-up of FOG can occur over time resulting in backups and reduced sanitary sewer flow capacity. Eventually the FOG in the sanitary sewer system will damage the main lines and require expensive repairs. **Grease Interceptors** are installed as a pre-treatment measure to help maintain the capacity and condition of this critical infrastructure.

Requirements for Pre-Treatment Devices

Part 9 of the City of Lakewood Water and Sewer Rules and Regulations identify the requirements for Sanitary Sewer System Pre-Treatment Devices including **grease interceptors**.

The regulations state that “Establishments that provide food serving, food preparation, food catering, meat cutting, animal slaughtering and other establishments capable of discharging grease into the public sanitary sewer system shall be required to install a grease interceptor.”

While this requirement applies to all businesses that prepare or serve food, the type and size of the grease interceptor can vary greatly. It is important to understand the design criteria and options available to ensure that the type and size of the grease interceptor is appropriate to the intended use. A small establishment that serves beverages will require a different grease interceptor than that of a large restaurant.

Types of Grease Interceptors

Grease interceptors typically use gravity and temperature changes to separate grease and oil from the water. As FOG enters the interceptor, items are cooled down resulting in separation, only allowing water to enter the sanitary sewer line.

Type A & B Interceptors

This type of grease interceptor is a two-compartment structure typically made from concrete and is located outside of the building. These structures are rated by capacity and range in size from 320 gallons to 3500 gallons. Type A and B interceptors are best suited for medium to large applications including multiple tenants in some cases.

In-Line Interceptors

This type of interceptor is a proprietary or prefabricated unit that is set indoors under a sink or near the fixture connected to it. Because proprietary units often have unique sizing requirements or use specialized technology, they are not allowed without specific review and approval. Some unit may not be allowed. In-line interceptors are best suited for small applications with minimal FOG discharge.

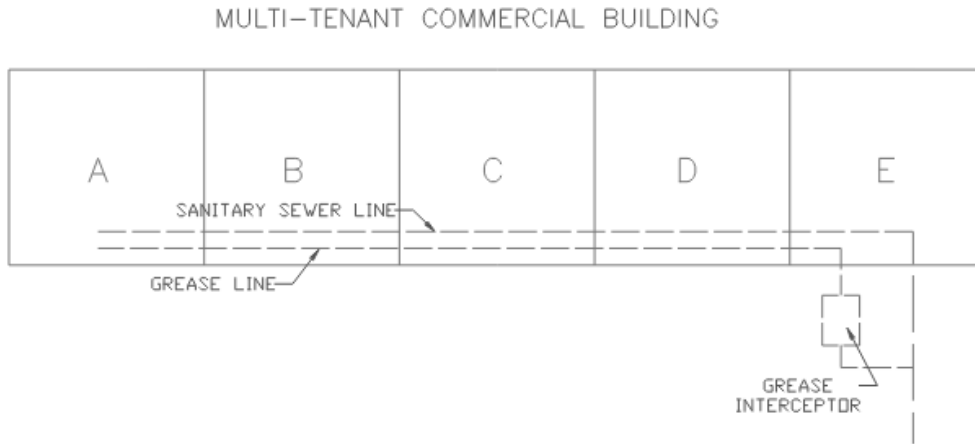
Determining the Required Size of a Grease Interceptor

The Utility Engineering Division has created a form to assist in sizing grease interceptors. The form should be provided with the initial submittal of the building plans to the City and is available on-line or by contacting the Utility Engineering Division. Failure to submit this information at the time of the initial submittal will delay the approval of your project.

The form provides two methods for determining the required capacity of the interceptor. The first method is based on the anticipated number of meals and seats proposed. The second method is based on the type and number of fixtures proposed. Choose the method which best suits the design of your project. If an in-line grease interceptor is proposed, be sure to include the manufacturers product information sheets showing the unit model number and specifications along with the sizing form.

Typical Installations

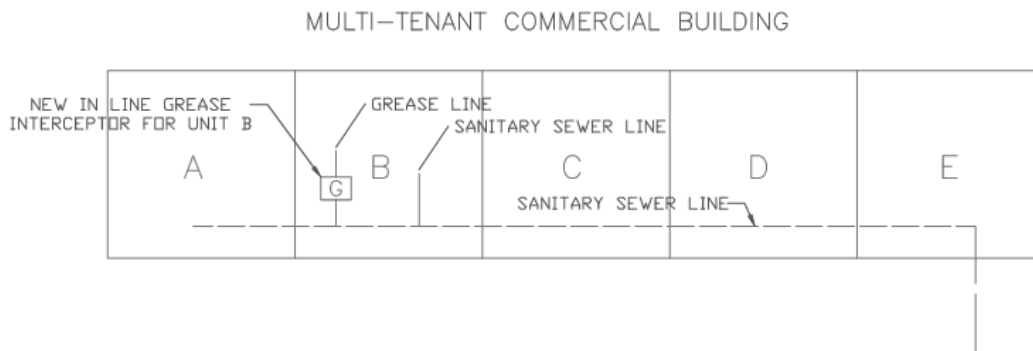
Waste from fixtures that can take in FOG must be directed through the grease interceptor before entering the sanitary sewer line. Some existing multi-tenant commercial buildings were designed and constructed with a common grease line and grease interceptors with the capacity to serve multiple units. If you are not sure if your building already has a grease interceptor, or if you are unsure how to verify if the capacity is adequate for your proposed use, contact the Utility Engineering Division for assistance.



TYPICAL SANITARY SEWER & GREASE LINE
FOR MULTI-TENANT COMMERCIAL BUILDING
NTS

In-Line Grease Interceptors

In buildings that do not have a dedicated grease line, an in-line Grease Interceptors can be installed for single tenant use with a small capacity requirement. If you plan to use an in-line grease interceptor, make sure that all equipment and plumbing modifications are shown on the initial submittal of the building plans to avoid delays in approval for your project. If you have questions regarding plumbing requirements, contact the Building Division for assistance.

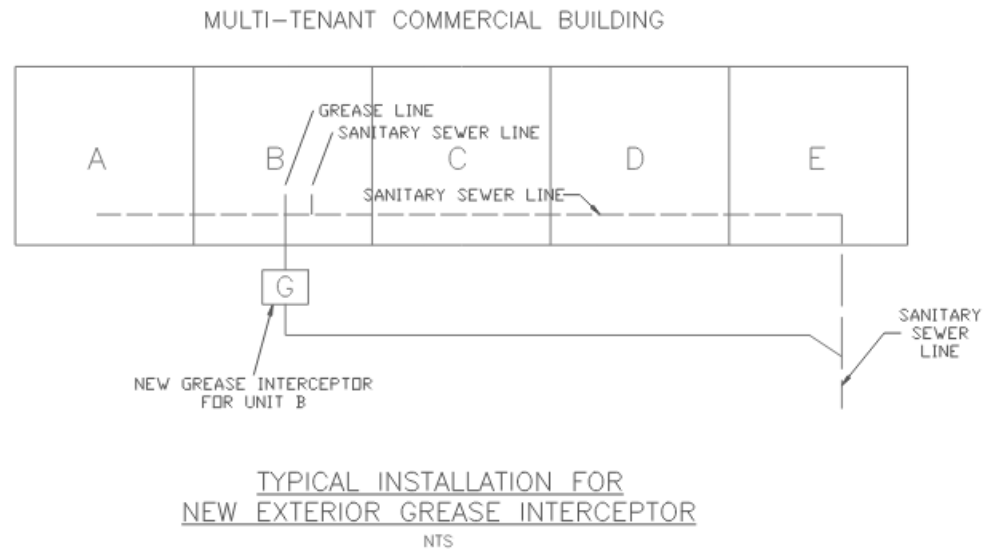


TYPICAL INSTALLATION FOR
NEW INTERIOR GREASE INTERCEPTOR
NTS

Type A & B (Exterior) Grease Interceptors

In buildings that do not have a dedicated grease line, Type A or B exterior grease interceptors can be installed for a single tenant that has a high-capacity requirement. If you plan to install an exterior interceptor, be sure to include the design on the site plan (or additional plans) included with the building plan submittal. The plans should include

location dimensions, invert elevations, clearance dimensions and surface restoration. If you have questions regarding the design or requirements, contact the Engineering Development Assistance Department.



Additional Information

It is critical to the operation and maintenance of the City's sanitary sewer infrastructure to prevent FOG from entering the system. Grease interceptors are an important preventative measure. As such, grease interceptors are reviewed by multiple departments within the City prior to approval.

To ensure that your permit is reviewed and approved as quickly as possible, please include all the required forms and plans with your initial submittal. If you have questions, or are unsure of the requirements, please reach out to the Utilities Division, the Building Official, or come to the permit counter for help. This can save you significant time in obtaining your building permit.

Resources

- City of Lakewood Utility Division, 303-987-7930, marllo@lakewood.org
- City of Lakewood Building Division, 303-987-7554, mjones@lakewood.org
- City of Lakewood Engineering Development Assistance, 303-987-7942, benmeh@lakewood.org
- City of Lakewood Water and Sewer Rules and Regulations, Part 9, Sanitary Sewer System Pre-Treatment Devices
- City of Lakewood Water and Sewer Rules and Regulations, Standard Detail SA-20, SA-21 and SA-24
- International Plumbing Code, Section 1003.3.5 Hydromechanical Grease Interceptors