

Prohibitions Relating to Discharge of Fats, Oil, and Grease

DO NOT...	Basis
Do not discharge fats, oil, and grease in concentrations that will cause an obstruction to the flow in a sewer, or pass through or interference at a wastewater treatment facility.	Grease can solidify and trap other solid particles to completely plug the wastewater collection system.
Do not discharge grease, improperly shredded garbage, animal guts or tissues, paunch manure, bones, hide, hair, fleshings, or entrails.	These materials in combination or alone can cause blockages and other operations and maintenance problems in the wastewater collection and treatment system.
Do not discharge wastewater with temperatures in excess of 140° F to any grease traps. This includes water from mechanical dishwashers that have a minimum required temperature of 160° F.	<p>Temperatures in excess of 140° F will dissolve grease, but the grease can re-congeal and cause blockages further downstream in the sanitary sewer collection system as the water cools.</p> <p>Note: High temperature water, such as from a dishwasher, is discharged to the remotely-located grease interceptor, if there is one. The remote location and the high volume of the interceptor allows the water time to cool so that there is not a problem with dissolving grease and moving it further downstream. The high volume also provides dilution of the detergents in the dishwasher waste.</p>
Do not discharge waste from a food waste disposal unit to any grease traps.	The food waste will greatly reduce the capacity of the grease trap for retaining grease and can cause worse problems with blockages.
Do not discharge caustics, acids, solvents, or other emulsifying agents.	<p>Though emulsifying agents can dissolve solidified grease, the grease can re-congeal further downstream in the sanitary sewer collection system.</p> <p>Caustics, acids, and solvents can have other harmful effects on the wastewater treatment system and can be a hazard to employees working in the wastewater collection system.</p>
Do not discharge fats, wax, grease or oils containing substances that will become viscous between 32° F (0° C) and 150° F (65° C).	The temperatures shown are temperatures that can occur in the wastewater collection and treatment system. If these substances congeal, solidify, or become too viscous, they can cause blockages and other operations and maintenance problems.
Do not utilize biological agents for grease remediation without permission from the sanitary agency receiving the waste.	The biological agents may disrupt the biological treatment process at the wastewater treatment plant.
Do not clean equipment outdoors in an area where water can flow to the gutter, storm drain, or street.	Grease and dirt will be washed off the equipment and enter the storm drain system and flow to nearby streams.