

## ACTION ITEM 7.7 – GREASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

### ACTION ITEM

Develop a grease management program.

### OBJECTIVE

Fats, oils, and grease (FOG) management programs can ensure the longevity of sanitary sewer system capacity by alleviating maintenance challenges and overflows caused by blockages associated with grease accumulation in sewers.

### DESCRIPTION OF MEASURE

The discharge of grease into sewer systems contributes to serious clogging problems and costs the local wastewater providers substantial amounts of time and money in unclogging and cleaning the system. Major grease discharges typically include industrial facilities, commercial facilities (such as restaurants), multi-family residential units, and schools. The cumulative effects of grease discharges from single-family residential units can also be considerable, especially in areas with smaller than 8-inch sewer lines. Grease is responsible for a significant amount of system blockages experienced in the Metro Water District.

Many municipalities in the Metro Water District have incorporated grease trap requirements for commercial food establishments or processors that discharge a large volume of waste oils or tallow. Although existing municipal codes and ordinances require the installation of grease traps, the lack of routine maintenance of grease traps can lead to sewer line failure. Local governments have a role in assuring that grease trap owners routinely maintain their traps and reduce the amount of waste oils discharged to the sewer system. Control of grease from commercial establishments, multi-family units, and institutions would further reduce the amount of grease entering sanitary sewer systems, which would undoubtedly reduce clogging of sewer systems.

The grease management program must include the following:

- Legal authority regulating the discharge of grease from industrial and commercial facilities
- Legal authority for an enforcement program
- Written methods and procedures for preventing/controlling discharges of grease from industrial and commercial facilities
- Inspection/tracking method
- Grease management education program to ensure that the community understands the importance of reducing/eliminating grease discharges into the sewer system
- Inspection and permitting program for trucks used in pumping of grease traps

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Responsible Party</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Local Government</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Wastewater Provider</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>In Coordination With</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site Plan Review Staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Community Development/ Zoning</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Stormwater Program</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Local Water Providers</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Board of Health</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>neighboring wastewater providers, as necessary</u></p>
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## Section 7: COLLECTION SYSTEM INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE

Commercial waste transports must be registered with Georgia EPD, as outlined in the Georgia Water Quality Control Act (O.C.G.A. §12-15-21). This Act also requires that a local governing authority inspect commercial trucks annually. Local governments in the Metro Water District can choose to implement an inspection program or delegate inspection responsibilities to a designee. The Georgia FOG (Fats, Oils and Grease) Alliance provides training for local government staff on conducting these inspections.

The grease management program must include an education component for industrial and commercial facilities, residents, schools and others that have grease traps installed at their facilities. Education of these groups will highlight the importance of routine maintenance and the proper disposal of fats, oils and grease. More information on establishing a public education program can be found in the education section of this plan.

### SPECIFIC SUB-TASKS

Sub-Task	Description
Develop procedures for grease control and enforcement	Establish grease trap requirements for industrial and commercial facilities
Fats, oils and grease (FOG) education	Implement education targeted at generators of fats, oils and grease

### GREASE STORAGE (OPTIONAL)

Local wastewater providers may also choose to require secondary containment for outdoor grease storage containers (optional). Spills from grease storage containers stored outdoors will not negatively impact the collection system but will negatively impact watershed health. Examination of outdoor grease containment areas is optional as part of the local grease trap inspection program.

Some local wastewater providers may choose to inspect and track the collection, transport and disposal of grease trap waste. Tracking grease is optional, but may help communities with challenges related to improper grease disposal or illicit discharges.