

## WASTE GENERATOR'S FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **How can I obtain a grease trap permit?**

You can obtain a permit from the Consumer Health Office located at 8000 N Stadium Drive Monday through Friday 8-4. There is a \$50.00 non-refundable annual fee. If possible, bring a copy of your current Food Dealer's Permit for cashier's reference.

- **How can I obtain a non-restaurant (grit, lint or oil/water separator) permit?**

Non-food dealer permit holders can obtain permits in person at 7411 Park Place Blvd, Room 109 Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - noon and 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., or by mail. Completed permit applications can be mailed to:

Attn: Emily Chacon  
7411 Park Place Blvd, Rm 109  
Houston, TX 77087

- **What do I do about my citation?**

You are able to receive fine amounts and court procedures at [www.houstoncourts.org](http://www.houstoncourts.org), by calling 311 or (713) 837-0311.

- **How do I submit a complaint?**

To submit a complaint, you must call 832.393.5740 in addition to calling 311. You will need the exact address of the concern, business name if applicable and environmental concern. You are not required to submit your personal information.

- **What should I expect from an inspection?**

All establishments with interceptors will be inspected on a routine basis, or if a complaint is reported. There will be no prior notification for inspections. During an inspection, the City's investigator will need to be provided with the following documents:

- Original Fats, Oils, and Grease Permit
- Yellow and white copies of waste manifests for the past 5 years
- Invoices from permitted Biological pre-treatment company (if applicable)
- Notice of Waiver (if applicable)
- Copies of previous inspections

During the inspection, your sample well, grease trap, dumpster, rendering oil bin, and surrounding area will be checked for proper maintenance and upkeep.

- **What is a grease trap/interceptor?**

A grease trap is a device that prevents oil, grease and undesirable matter from being discharged into the City's sanitary sewer system. It prevents any blockages or damage to the wastewater treatment facilities. Automatic dishwashers, 2 or 3 compartment sinks, mop sinks, and floor drains are the plumbing fixtures that flow into the grease trap.

Here is what it looks like:



- **What is a waste manifest?**

A waste manifest is an official government document that must be completed every time your interceptor is cleaned. The generator must sign the top portion of the manifest attesting to the fact that the entire content of the trap was removed. The white and yellow copies manifest must be retained ONSITE for at least 5 years from the clean out date.

- **Can I pressure wash my driveway, side walk, or parking lot?**

You may only use a permitted pressure washing company that has a current and valid permit with the City of Houston Health Department, and who is equipped to collect all pressured wash water and prevent it from entering the storm drain. You may obtain a list of permitted companies listed with (PW) from the Forms drop down menu of this page.

- **Who can clean my interceptor (trap)?**

Your interceptor can be cleaned only by a waste transporter that is permitted with the Health Department. You may obtain a list of permitted transporters from the Forms drop down menu of this page.

- **How do I know if the truck that is cleaning my interceptor is permitted?**

The vehicle will have current and valid waste transporter decals on the doors of each side of the truck and also on the back of the tank. The decal will show the company's permit number, truck number and the current permit year. (See [example of current waste transporter decal.](#)) You may also ask to view the driver's City-issued identification card for further verification.

- **What do I do with my old fryer grease?**

Used frying grease must be picked up from your establishment by a private disposal company. **FRYER GREASE AND RENDERING OIL CANNOT BE Poured DOWN THE DRAIN, INTO A GREASE TRAP, DITCH OR DOWN A STORM DRAIN!** There are several private companies in the Houston area that pick up fryer grease or rendering oil. It is recyclable. It may be placed in a rendering bin or any plastic or metal container with a lid for storage until it can be removed and disposed of. Please keep all rendering bin lids closed tightly to prevent any spillage from occurring.