

AUTOMOTIVE FACILITY REGULATIONS

Federal regulations require publicly owned wastewater treatment operators to control the discharge of wastewater from certain businesses and industries to the sewer system. The discharge of these wastes to the sewer system can result in the generation of explosive sewer gas, increased sewer line maintenance costs, and may cause operational difficulties at the Community's wastewater treatment facilities.



Automotive facilities, including auto repair shops, auto body shops, radiator repair shops, car washes, and fleet service facilities are required to install a sand/oil interceptor to remove oil and solids before the wastewater is discharged to the sewer system. Operators of these facilities must also obtain a discharge permit from the Clark County Water Reclamation District. The sand/oil interceptor must be pumped out as often as necessary to maintain the operating efficiency of the unit. All maintenance records of the sand/oil interceptor are required to be kept on site for a minimum of three years. These records will be reviewed during facility inspections completed by Pretreatment staff.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs)

Automotive Repair Facilities are required to implement Best Management Practices to significantly reduce the amount of waste oil, antifreeze, and other automotive fluids that could potentially be discharged to the sewer system.

Effective BMPs include:

DO...

- Wipe up any spilled fluids
- Sweep and mop service floors
- Replace harmful solvents with aqueous cleaners or degreasers
- Recycle all waste oil
- Recycle all waste anti-freeze
- Recycle all transmission fluids
- Use phosphate free soaps/cleaners
- Use self contained solvent tank
- Maintain sand/oil interceptor
- Have a company representative present during interceptor cleaning
- Post all BMPs in service areas
- Review BMPs with employees
- Contact the Pretreatment Section at 702-668-8077 if you have questions or need assistance concerning any sand/oil interceptor issues

DON'T...

- Do not dispose of oil/grease waste down the drains
- Do not dispose of old chemicals down the drains
- Do not hose down spills to a floor drain
- Do not wait until your sand/oil interceptor is overflowing to get it cleaned
- Do not use a drain opening chemical to open a clogged drain (call a professional plumber to evaluate the situation)

SAND-OIL INTERCEPTOR MAINTENANCE:

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES



Reduce your costs
Reduce Pollution
Help protect our valley's water supply

*Contact our Pretreatment Staff
if you have any questions:
(702) 668-8077*



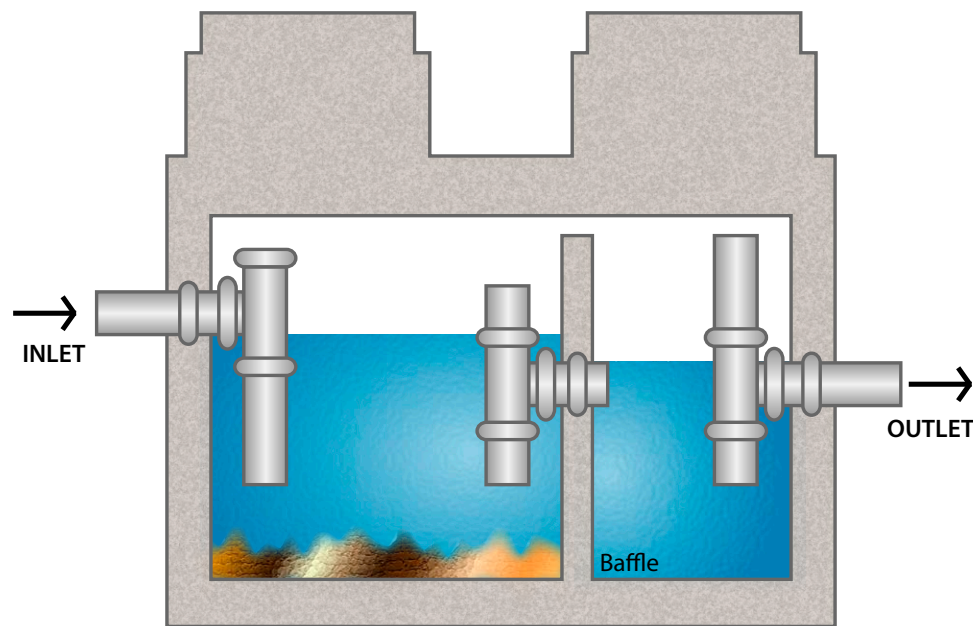
www.cleanwaterteam.com

SAND/OIL INTERCEPTOR REQUIREMENTS

The Clark County Building Code requires interceptors to be installed in, but not limited to, the following locations:

- car washes
- motor vehicle, boat and airplane storage yards
- gasoline and diesel service stations
- repair garages
- any private or public wash rack or slab used for cleaning machinery or machine parts
- any other similar facility which may introduce sand, oil, or hydrocarbons into the sewer system

The interceptor is required to meet the requirements of the District's Pretreatment regulations.



The interceptor is sized according to the design criteria specified in the Uniform Plumbing Code and in accordance with current applicable regulations of the Clark County Building Department. The interceptor shall contain a minimum of two chambers, with a manhole cover over each chamber, and shall include a sample box. The sample box is used to collect wastewater samples to verify the wastewater is in compliance with required discharge limits. District Regulations require automotive facilities to prevent the discharge of detectable quantities of toxic organics and hydrocarbons to the sewer system.

SAND-OIL INTERCEPTOR MAINTENANCE

Sand/oil interceptors must be cleaned regularly. The removal and disposal of this material should be done by a professional pumping contractor that is trained and licensed in this field of expertise. **Always monitor the pumping and keep the records on-site.**

Regular Cleaning Schedules

The frequency of cleaning is dependent on the loading. The higher the concentration of waste discharged to a sand/oil interceptor, the more frequently it needs cleaning.

- Interceptor cleaning will range somewhere from 30 days to every 12 months.
- Some interceptor manufacturers recommend that a new unit be cleaned at 90 days after installation to help establish the cleaning frequency.
- If cleaning is needed more frequently than every 90 days, the sand/oil interceptor is possibly undersized.

Disposal of Intercepted Materials

Sand/oil and other waste matter that has been removed from the interceptor should not be introduced into any drain, sewer, stormdrain or natural body of water.



Re-evaluate Cleaning Schedules

Regular cleaning at prescribed intervals is necessary to maintain the efficiency of an interceptor. The maintenance frequency should be re-evaluated on any system that has clogged. Changes in wastewater quantity and quality are not unusual in commercial and industrial installations.

Consequently, re-evaluations of maintenance frequencies are common practice for the pretreatment of oil-laden or hydrocarbon impacted wastewater.

Inspect Interceptor After Cleaning

After the accumulated sand/oil and waste material are removed, thoroughly check the interceptor to make certain that the inlet, outlet and air relief vents are clear of obstructions. Backups prior to scheduled maintenance intervals indicate a clogged system, which could result in an overflow. Also, the performance of the interceptor becomes impaired as sand/oil and other materials accumulate because of reduced retention time, resulting from less interceptor volume.

Properly Sized Interceptor

Oversizing the size of the interceptor can reduce the required cleaning frequency. The frequency of cleaning at any given installation can best be determined by experience based on observation. Generally, cleaning should be done when 50% of the sand/oil retention capacity has been reached. This level can be determined by removing the inlet side manhole cover, and using a probe, determining the depth of sand/oil build up.

Don't Be a Pain in the Drain

Proper cleaning and maintenance of the interceptor must be performed on a regular schedule or the interceptor becomes fouled, allowing oils, solvents, hydrocarbons, grit and debris to pass through the device and accumulate on pipe walls, causing blockages and foul odors in the sewer system. Where installed, the owner, at his or her expense, shall maintain all interceptors to ensure continuously efficient operation at all times.