



## Modifying or Rebuilding a Gravity Grease Interceptor

Criteria for consideration by the City as an acceptable gravity grease interceptor existing or installed prior to adoption of the FOG Ordinance and not meeting the design and installation requirements for a new gravity grease interceptor are as follows:

- (a) Capacity and Condition – Existing gravity grease interceptors installed prior to the adoption of this FOG Ordinance shall have a minimum of 1000-gallons capacity and shall be found to be in proper working order as determined by the City of Dothan’s FOG Program Coordinator or their designee. Any existing gravity grease interceptor in this category not meeting these conditions shall require the installation of gravity grease interceptor(s) meeting the City’s design and installation requirements for new gravity grease interceptors.
- (b) Piping
  - (1) The inlet piping shall enter the receiving chamber a minimum of 2 ½ inches above the invert of the outlet piping.
  - (2) On the inlet pipe inside the receiving chamber, a sanitary tee of the same size pipe in the vertical position with the top unplugged shall be provided as a turndown. A pipe (nipple) of the same size as the tee shall be installed in the top of the tee with the top of the nipple open. A pipe installed in the bottom of the tee shall extend to a point of 2/3 the depth of the water level. The inlet tee shall be made of Schedule 40 PVC or equivalent material.
  - (3) The outlet piping shall be no smaller than the inlet piping, but in no case smaller than 4” diameter.
  - (4) The outlet piping shall contain a tee installed vertically with a pipe (nipple) installed in the top of the tee, with the top of the nipple open. A pipe installed in the bottom of the tee shall be made of a non-collapsible material and extend to 12” above the tank floor. Minimum materials requirement for the outlet piping is Schedule 40 PVC.
- (c) Baffles
  - (1) The interceptor shall have a non-flexing (i.e. concrete, steel, etc.) baffle extending from the floor to a level above of the outlet piping. An existing gravity grease interceptor having no baffle(s) present or hanging baffle(s) that are open or baffle(s) not attached at the bottom will not be acceptable.
  - (2) If inverted 90 degree sweeps or tees are used to convey liquid from the inlet to outlet side of the interceptor, the baffle shall have an inverted 90 degree sweep(s), or schedule 40 PVC tee(s), fitting at least equal in diameter size to the

inlet piping, but in no case less than 4 inches. The bottom of the sweep(s) or tee(s) shall be placed in the vertical position of the inlet compartment 12 inches above the floor. If a tee is used in lieu of a sweep, a pipe nipple of the same size as the tee shall be installed in the top of the tee and extend to a height above outlet tee. The nipple shall remain open. A pipe installed in the bottom of the tee shall extend to 12" above the tank floor.

- (3) In lieu of a sweep or tee through the baffle, slotted designs will be acceptable for existing gravity grease interceptors to convey liquid from the inlet to outlet side of the interceptor.
- (4) The inlet compartment shall be 2/3 of the total liquid capacity with the outlet compartment at 1/3 liquid capacity of the interceptor.

(d) Access Openings (Manholes)

- (1) Access to gravity grease interceptors shall be provided by a minimum of one manhole per interceptor division (baffle chamber/compartment) and be of 24-inch minimum dimension terminating 1 inch above finished grade with cast iron frame and cover. One manhole shall be located above the inlet tee hatch and the other manhole shall be located above the outlet tee hatch. A minimum of 24" of clear opening above each manhole access shall be maintained to facilitate maintenance, cleaning, pumping, and inspections.
- (2) Access openings shall be mechanically sealed and gas tight to contain odors and bacteria, to exclude vermin and ground water, and in a manner that permits regular reuses.
- (3) The manholes shall be accessible for inspection by the City.

(e) Location – Gravity grease interceptors shall be located so as to be readily accessible for cleaning, maintenance, and inspections. They should be located close to the fixture(s) discharging to the interceptor. Grease interceptor access manholes shall never be paved over, covered by landscaping, or have any other hindrances not allowing access.

(f) Construction Material – Grease interceptors shall be constructed of sound durable materials, not subject to excessive corrosion/decay, and shall be water and gas tight.

(g) Rebuilding/Modifying in Place

- (1) An existing gravity grease interceptor having a minimum of 1000-gallons capacity and found by the City of Dothan's FOG Program personnel to be functional, but having unacceptable access openings, baffle configuration, or plumbing, may be modified in place to an acceptable configuration as outlined in (b) through (d) by rebuilding/modifying it in-place as set forth in (g). The FOG Program Coordinator reserves the right to require additional gravity grease interceptor capacity and/or the installation of gravity grease interceptor(s) meeting the City's design and installation requirements for new gravity grease interceptors.
- (2) If the gravity grease interceptor's baffle is not acceptable (no baffle or hanging baffle), the baffle may be modified in-place to an acceptable configuration, generally as given in (c) or an interceptor meeting the City's design and installation requirements of a new gravity grease interceptor shall be installed. The baffle shall extend above level of the outlet pipe.
- (3) If the interceptor does not have compliant access openings over each compartment, these shall be added in compliance with (d).