

**GREATER VANCOUVER SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
BYLAW NO. 365, 2023**

A bylaw to regulate the discharge of wastewater from food sector establishments

WHEREAS:

- A. The *Environmental Management Act* of British Columbia and the *Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Act* authorize the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District (the "District") to make bylaws respecting the direct or indirect discharge of wastes into any sewer or drain connected to a sewerage facility operated by the District;
- B. The *Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Act* authorizes the District to set fees payable by persons who discharge liquid waste into any work, service or plant of the District for conveying, disposing of, or treating liquid waste, or work, service, or plant connected thereto; and;
- C. It is deemed desirable to regulate the discharge of wastewater from food sector establishments that contains or may be contaminated with fats, oils and grease.

NOW THEREFORE the Board of the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District enacts as follows:

1. Citation

The official citation of this bylaw is the "Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Food Sector Grease Interceptor Bylaw No. 365, 2023" ("this bylaw").

2. Repeal of Bylaw

The "Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Food Sector Grease Interceptor Bylaw No. 268, 2012" is hereby repealed.

3. Definitions

In this bylaw:

"**approved**" means an approval of or given by a Sewage Control Manager;

"**Approved Grease Interceptor Selection Methodology**" refers to the methodology approved by a Sewage Control Manager for choosing a grease interceptor with the appropriate rated flow capacity as required in this bylaw;

"**drain**" means a pipe, conduit, channel, or other similar equipment used to convey wastewater;

"**fats, oils and grease**" means insoluble organic fats, oils or grease from animal or vegetable sources;

“flow capacity” means the quantity of wastewater measured in relation to units of time that is discharged into or through a grease interceptor;

“flow control fitting” means a device that controls flow capacity;

“food sector establishment” means any premises, except premises used solely as a private residence or premises that manufacture food products primarily for wholesale purposes, where food in liquid or solid form is prepared, packaged, served, sold, or otherwise handled in a manner that results in the discharge, directly or indirectly into a sewer or sewage facility, of fats, oils and grease and includes restaurants, delicatessens, fast-food premises, commissary kitchens, markets, cafeterias, hospitals, bars, grocery stores, bakeries, butcher shops, and other similar premises;

“garbage compactor” means a device that compacts waste that may be contaminated with fats, oils and grease;

“gravity grease interceptor” means a device that uses gravity and interior baffling to separate and retain fats, oils and grease from wastewater;

“grease interceptor” means a gravity grease interceptor, hydromechanical grease interceptor, or grease removal device that separates, and then removes or retains, fats, oils and grease from wastewater before it is discharged into a sewer or sewage facility;

“grease removal device” means a hydromechanical grease interceptor that separates and removes fats, oils and grease from wastewater using an automatic, mechanical process;

“hydromechanical grease interceptor” means a device that uses hydromechanical separation, interior baffling, and air entrainment barriers, whether in combination or independently, to separate and retain fats, oils and grease from wastewater;

“point of discharge” means the point at which wastewater is discharged from a grease interceptor into a sewer or sewage facility;

“rated flow capacity” means the flow capacity to which the grease interceptor is certified under a standard listed in section 8.7 or rated in accordance with an alternative methodology or standard approved under section 8.8;

“sampling point” means the point at which a sample of wastewater can be collected;

“Sewer Use Bylaw” means *Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Sewer Use Bylaw No. 299, 2007*;

“solids interceptor” means a device that separates, and then removes or retains, solids from wastewater, including a basket, screen, or other similar device;

“Trucked Liquid Waste Bylaw” means *Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Trucked Liquid Waste Bylaw No. 345, 2021*; and

“wastewater depth” means the depth of the wastewater measured from the bottom of the grease interceptor to the surface of the content in the grease interceptor.

4. Terms

Terms defined in the Sewer Use Bylaw or incorporated by reference into the Sewer Use Bylaw have the same meaning in this bylaw unless otherwise defined.

5. References

References in this bylaw to an enactment, including the Sewer Use Bylaw, include the enactment as it may be amended or replaced from time to time.

6. Application

Every person who discharges, or allows or causes to be discharged, directly or indirectly, wastewater from a food sector establishment into a sewer or sewage facility must comply with this bylaw.

7. Restrictions

7.1 Subject to sections 7.2 and 7.3, no person shall discharge, or allow or cause to be discharged, directly or indirectly, wastewater from a food sector establishment into a sewer or sewage facility if the wastewater contains any of the following:

- a. high volume discharge;
- b. restricted waste;
- c. stormwater;
- d. prohibited waste;
- e. uncontaminated water;
- f. groundwater;
- g. trucked liquid waste;
- h. any substance, whether gaseous, liquid, or solid, that may cause damage to a sewer or sewage facility by corrosion;
- i. any substance, whether gaseous, liquid, or solid, in a concentration or quantity that may cause interference with the proper operation of a sewer or sewage facility;
- j. any substance, whether gaseous, liquid, or solid, in a concentration or quantity that may injure or is capable of injuring the health of any person, property or life form;

- k. any substance, whether gaseous, liquid, or solid, in a concentration or quantity that is or may become a safety hazard to persons who operate or maintain a sewer or sewage facility; or
 - l. any substance, whether gaseous, liquid, or solid, used to dilute non-domestic waste, including water.
- 7.2 A person may discharge, or allow or cause to be discharged, directly or indirectly into a sewage facility, non-domestic trucked liquid waste from a food sector establishment if the discharge is in compliance with the Trucked Liquid Waste Bylaw.
- 7.3 A person may discharge, or allow or cause to be discharged, directly or indirectly into a sewer or sewage facility, restricted waste that is pH waste, biological oxygen demand, total suspended solids or total oil and grease, all as described in Schedule B of the Sewer Use Bylaw, if the discharge is otherwise in compliance with this bylaw.
- 7.4 No person shall add, or cause or permit to be added into a grease interceptor any enzymes, solvents, hot water, bacteria, or other biological or chemical substance to facilitate the passage of fats, oils and grease through a grease interceptor.

8. Grease Interceptor Requirements

- 8.1 Every owner or operator of a food sector establishment must use grease interceptors in accordance with this bylaw to separate fats, oils and grease, and then remove or retain such fats, oils and grease from wastewater before the wastewater is discharged into a sewer or sewage facility.
- 8.2 The following fats, oils and grease bearing fixtures in a food sector establishment must be connected directly or indirectly to a grease interceptor:
- a. cooking equipment that is connected, directly or indirectly, to a drain, including wok stations, soup kettles, tilt kettles, and other similar cooking equipment;
 - b. sinks that are used for pre-rinsing or washing pots, pans, dishes, cutlery or kitchen utensils, or to perform other similar washing activities;
 - c. self-cleaning exhaust hoods installed over cooking equipment;
 - d. garbage compactors, if their usage results in a discharge, directly or indirectly into a sewer or sewage facility, of fats, oils and grease;
 - e. hub/funnel drains used to service fats, oils and grease bearing fixtures;

- f. dishwashing equipment installed in a food sector establishment that is located in:
 - i. a building that was constructed on or after the date of adoption of this bylaw; or
 - ii. a space that was converted on or after the date of adoption of this bylaw, in order to support the function of a food sector establishment; and
 - g. any other plumbing equipment or device that discharges or conveys wastewater which contains or may be contaminated with fats, oils and grease.
- 8.3 The following in a food sector establishment must not be connected to a grease interceptor:
- a. toilets and urinals; and
 - b. subject to section 8.4, food grinders, potato peelers and other similar equipment used for the preparation of food.
- 8.4 Food grinders, potato peelers and other similar equipment used in the preparation of food must be connected to a solids interceptor that is connected to a grease interceptor if the wastewater discharged from such food preparation equipment contains or may be contaminated with fats, oils and grease.
- 8.5 A garbage compactor used in connection with a food sector establishment but situated outside of the building or structure of that food sector establishment must:
- a. be connected to a drain that is connected to a grease interceptor; and
 - b. prevent the mixing of storm water with the wastewater that is discharged into the drain connected to the grease interceptor.
- 8.6 Grease interceptors must not be located in a place or manner that obstructs or interferes with an officer's exercise of powers to ensure compliance with this bylaw, the Sewer Use Bylaw, or the *Environmental Management Act*.
- 8.7 All grease interceptors installed must be certified to:
- a. Canadian Standards Association (CSA) B481 Series 12 "Hydro Mechanical Grease Interceptors," as amended from time to time;
 - b. American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) A112.14.3 "Hydro Mechanical Grease Interceptors," as amended from time to time;
 - c. ASME A112.4.4 "Grease Removal Devices," as amended from time to time; or

- d. International Association Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO)/ American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Z1001 “Prefabricated Gravity Grease Interceptors,” as amended from time to time, and have a minimum hydraulic retention time of one minute.
- 8.8 Despite section 8.7, if a grease interceptor does not meet requirements in section 8.7, then the grease interceptor installed must be rated for flow capacity according to an alternative methodology or standard approved by a Sewage Control Manager.
- 8.9 The sum of all assigned flow rates of all plumbing fixtures connected to a grease interceptor, as determined in accordance with the Approved Grease Interceptor Selection Methodology, must not exceed the grease interceptor’s rated flow capacity.
- 8.10 If the manufacturer of a grease interceptor prescribes the use of a flow control fitting with the grease interceptor, the grease interceptor must have the prescribed flow control fitting.
- 8.11 The size of a flow control fitting that is required to be used with a grease interceptor must not exceed the rated flow capacity of the grease interceptor.
- 8.12 An officer or a Sewage Control Manager may require anything related to the discharge of wastewater from a food sector establishment, including any machine, structure, material or equipment on the premises that is being inspected, to be operated, used, set in motion, or opened under conditions specified by the officer or Sewage Control Manager.

9. Labelling Requirements

- 9.1 The rated flow capacity of a grease interceptor must be:
- a. permanently labelled on the grease interceptor or at a location deemed appropriate by an officer or a Sewage Control Manager and be visible and clearly legible at all times; or
 - b. shown to an officer or a Sewage Control Manager upon request, in written documentation issued by the manufacturer of the grease interceptor.

10. Grease Interceptor Maintenance

- 10.1 Every grease interceptor must be examined and cleaned in accordance with this section 10.
- 10.2 A grease interceptor must be examined, and cleaned:
- a. at least once every 90 consecutive days; or
 - b. when the total thickness of fats, oils and grease and solids in the grease interceptor is equal to 25% or more of the wastewater depth,

whichever occurs earlier, or at any time or frequency that a Sewage Control Manager, by order, deems either sufficient or necessary to meet the purposes of section 1 of the Sewer Use Bylaw.

10.3 Examination and cleaning of a grease interceptor must include:

- a. full evacuation of the grease interceptor;
- b. clearing of all inlet, outlet, and air relief ports of any obstructions or other matter that may interfere with the proper functioning of the grease interceptor;
- c. examination of all baffles, seals, and internal components for damage and other defects or conditions that may interfere with the proper functioning of the grease interceptor; and
- d. replacement or repair of any damaged components and other defects or conditions that may interfere with the proper functioning of the grease interceptor.

10.4 Fats, oils and grease evacuated from a grease interceptor during the examination and cleaning required under this section 10 must not, directly or indirectly, be discharged:

- a. in any form or manner, into the environment or into any sewer or storm sewer; or
- b. liquid form, into a municipal solid waste collection system.

11. Record Keeping

11.1 For each examination and cleaning required to be performed under section 10, every owner or operator of a food sector establishment must:

- a. keep and maintain on the premises a written record of the date of the examination, cleaning, and maintenance, with detailed descriptions of the types and quantities of matter evacuated;
- b. keep each record for at least two years after the year in which the record was first made; and
- c. make such records available for inspection by an officer or a Sewage Control Manager upon request.

12. Fees

12.1 If a Sewage Control Manager deems that any of the following inspection actions are required to ensure compliance with this bylaw, the owner or operator of a food sector establishment must pay the following fees set out in Table 1:

Table 1

Inspection action	Amount
a. Re-inspection	\$500
b. Sampling and analyses	\$300

12.2 With respect to the fees payable under section 12.1:

- a. any fees not paid within 30 days of the invoice date will be subject to a monthly interest charge of 1.25% per month (15% per annum); and
- b. if any fees for re-inspection or for sampling and analyses are not paid within 90 days of the due date, the food sector establishment will be in non-compliance with this bylaw and the discharge to a sewer will be unauthorized.

13. Offences

13.1 A person who contravenes any provision of this bylaw, other than the provisions listed in section 13.2, commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding \$10,000.

13.2 A person who contravenes any of the following commits an offence and is liable to a minimum fine of \$2,000 and a maximum fine not exceeding \$10,000:

- a. section 8.1 [*installation of a grease interceptor*];
- b. section 8.2 [*connection to a grease interceptor*];
- c. section 8.9 [*flow from all plumbing fixtures connected to the grease interceptor*];
- d. section 10.1 [*examination and cleaning*].

13.3 If an offence under section 13.1 continues for more than one day, separate fines, each not exceeding the maximum fine for that offence, may be imposed for each day the offence continues.

13.4 If an offence under section 13.2 continues for more than one day, separate fines, each not less than the minimum fine for that offence and not exceeding the maximum fine for that offence, may be imposed for each day the offence continues.

13.5 Nothing in this bylaw limits a Sewage Control Manager or the District from utilizing any other remedy that would otherwise be available at law.

14. General Conditions

- 14.1 If any portion of this bylaw is deemed *ultra vires*, illegal, invalid, or unenforceable in any way, in whole or in part, by a court or tribunal of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not invalidate or void the remainder of this bylaw. Any portion so held to be *ultra vires*, illegal, invalid, or unenforceable shall be deemed to be reduced in scope so as to be valid and enforceable, or in the alternative to have been stricken therefrom with the same force and effect as if such portion had never been included in this bylaw.
- 14.2 Nothing in this bylaw is intended to conflict with the *Environmental Management Act*. A conflict does not exist solely because further restrictions or conditions are imposed by this bylaw or the Sewer Use Bylaw.
- 14.3 Words importing the singular number include the plural number and vice versa.

Read a first, second, and third time this 29th day of SEPTEMBER, 2023.

Passed and finally adopted this 29th day of SEPTEMBER, 2023.



George V. Harvie, Chair



Dorothy Sherman, Corporate Officer