



Grease Interceptor Exceptions for Food Service Establishments (FSEs)



The City Ordinance allows for two exceptions to the installation of a properly sized, WRA approved grease interceptor. Requests for one of these exceptions must be submitted in writing to the WRA Director at 3000 Vandalia Road, Des Moines, IA 50317.

The two types of exceptions and required material for a complete submittal are:

1. Exceptional physical constraints:
 - a. Detailed description of the FSE's physical constraint.
 - b. Grease interceptor sizing calculations (the size required if there were no physical constraints) from a licensed plumber or engineer.
 - c. Detailed description of the proposed alternative grease control technology from a licensed plumber or engineer:
 1. Alternative grease control technology calculations.
 2. Detailed site plan of kitchen plumbing and equipment list.
 3. Detailed site plan showing FSE occupancy.
 - d. Documentation and plats showing the location of city / county sanitary sewer, private easements in relation to the building sewer for the building housing the FSE and available space inside or outside the building and drawings of existing plumbing at or in a site that uses common plumbing for all services at the site.
2. Exceptional economic hardship:
 - a. Detailed description of the FSE's financial constraints.
 - b. Grease interceptor sizing calculations and quote from a license plumber or engineer.
 - c. Detailed description and quote for the proposed alternative grease control technology from a license plumber or engineer:
 1. Alternative grease control technology calculations.
 2. Detailed site plan with kitchen plumbing and equipment list.
 3. Detailed site plan showing FSE occupancy.
 - d. Documentation of balance sheets and detailed profit / loss statements for an existing FSE for the preceding three years.
 - e. A business plan and detailed profit/loss projections for a minimum of 24 months for a new FSE.

Exceptions approved by the Director must include an alternative grease control technology that allows the establishment to meet the Ordinance discharge limit of 400 mg/L Fats, Oil & Grease (FOG) at all times.