

# **GREASE TRAPS**



## **FACTS SHEET**



## **What is a grease trap?**

A grease trap is a device designed to intercept grease in a foul water discharge.

## **Do all food premises by law require a grease trap?**

In general -Yes - in most cases they are mandatory.

## **How often do I need to have them serviced?**

Most legal references state at least each three (3) months.

## **What could happen if I do not service my grease trap?**

In law you have a duty to safe guard all involved with your business and prevent them from being infected or contaminated from the consequences of liquid waste.

## **Are there any penalties for breach of responsibilities in grease trap servicing?**

Like most facets of our society there are rules and if there is a breach, there are consequences. In this case, grease traps are covered by local government trade waste by-laws, the Building Act 1991, the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Local Government Act 1974 and within the legislation there is provision for prosecution and fines. There is also authority to close your business for a period should it be considered to be in the better interests of health issues.

## **Excerpt from Auckland Council Grease Trap Documentation:**

*“Cleaning the trap should be done regularly – once a month is usually alright but it will depend on your type of business and how much fat is going into the grease trap.*

*You need to maintain a cleaning record for your grease trap. This should be kept on your property and shown to an Environmental Health Officer or Tradewaste Officer if requested during an inspection.”*

## **Auckland Metropolitan Drainage Act 1960 No 15 (as at 01 November 2010), Local Act**

*(1) Requiring the provision and maintenance by and at the expense of the occupier of the trade premises concerned of screens, grease traps, silt traps or other means of preventing or controlling the discharge of solids or grease from the trade premises.*



## **Legal Requirements:**

*Auckland Council Bylaws*

*New Zealand Building Code G13 – Foul Water*

*New Zealand Building Code G14 – Industrial Liquid Waste*

### **What happens to the waste from the grease traps?**

A reputable drainage company should recycle it. If that cannot be done, then it should be dumped at an approved site for processing. Being a responsible premise owner, ask your drainage company how they dispose of the waste.

### **What is a typical worst-case scenario for not managing your grease trap?**

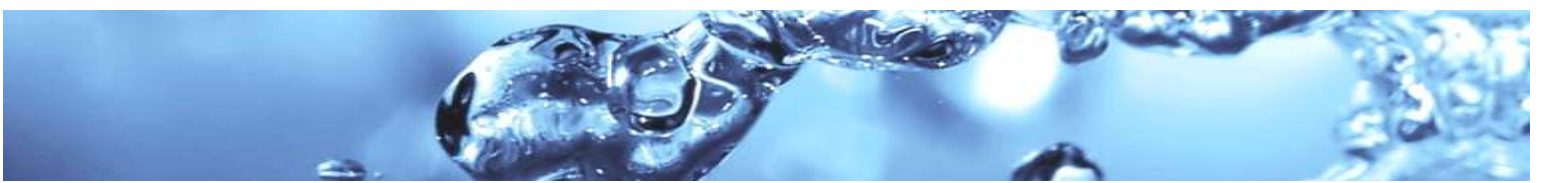
When the FOG (Food Oil and Grease) layer is allowed to get too deep it can block the water outlet and cause dysfunction. If clearing the FOG layer is left too long it will also turn rancid and cause increased foul odours and attraction to pests such as rodents and cockroaches. Such pests are harmful to your business and would be expensive to have your premises fumigated. On top of this, is the risk of a prosecution, fines or closure of your business.

### **What is the best thing to do?**

Have your grease trap serviced on a regular basis by a reputable drainage company who really knows the drainage and your business– it is not a cost – it is a necessity. Don't take risks with your business – it is not worth it.



***HydroTech's Mobile Dewatering Unit: The Maskoflex***



A reputable drainage maintenance programme can assist you to safeguard people from injury or illness caused by infection and contamination resulting from spillages or blockages associated with liquid waste.

### How can we assist you?

- CCTV your drains, present you with a DVD and / or report.
- Flush out built up silt or debris from drains
- Vacuum out the drains
- Drainage and plumbing services
- Unblock drains and report to you
- Service cesspits, grease traps and separator pits
- Service water drainage pipes within cesspits



### SPECIAL OFFER

Should you gain us a further grease trap customer within three months of signing your contract, and they will also sign a twelve-month service contract with us, we will provide ONE service of your grease trap free of cost.

### HydroTech Drainage & Plumbing - Your Problem Solver

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