



## WASTEWATER

Building Safety and Water Utility Departments

**DATE:** January 1, 2024

**TO:** Water and Sewer Customers

**FROM:** Greg Zielinski, CBO, Chief Building Official  
Industrial Waste Monitoring and Pretreatment Officers

**SUBJECT: Grease Interceptor Regulations**

The City of Lubbock has two separate regulations that govern the need for and the installation of grease traps and interceptors. Section 1003 of the 2015 International Plumbing Code provides prescriptive requirements for grease traps and Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances ("Wastewater Regulations") prohibits the introduction, and mandates the pretreatment of wastewater that contains certain substances, including concentrations of fats, oils and greases ("FOG") of greater than 250 mg/L by weight.

The attached material provides a prescriptive design document that enables compliance with all applicable City ordinances. Pretreatment devices as set forth in the attached document, or any pre-approved equivalent that will eliminate the prohibited discharge, must be installed any time there are (1) new installations of pretreatment devices; or (2) repairs or replacements of existing pretreatment devices. The City Building Safety Department will require compliance any time that the Plumbing Code requires a permit for related construction or remodeling.

Additionally, please note that the Wastewater Regulations require compliance with the discharge regulations set forth therein at all times. Although you may be inspected at any time to assure compliance with the Wastewater Regulations, you will likely be inspected in the event (1) there is a change in ownership or tenancy of a facility, or (2) there is a related construction or remodeling project that requires a permit from the City. You will also be inspected in the event the City has reason to believe that illegal discharges are occurring.

The Wastewater Regulations require a higher level of compliance to control the amount of FOG in the discharge in order to minimize damage to the collection system which contributes, among other things, to accidental wastewater discharges in violation of state and federal regulations.

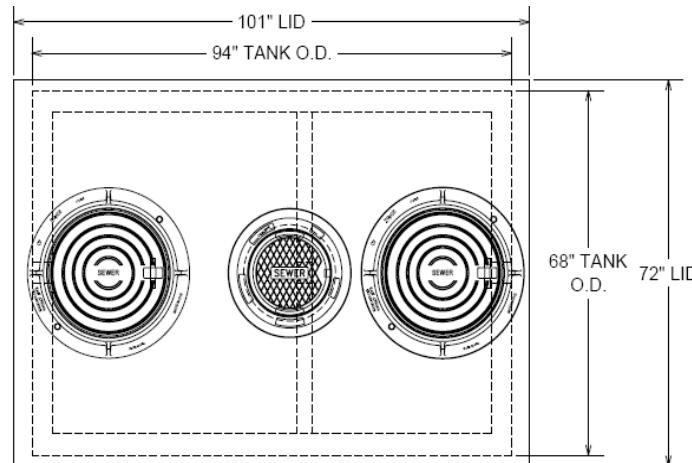
Your compliance with these regulations is required by law and very much appreciated by the City. In addition to achieving compliance with all applicable ordinances, a system designed and maintained as per these standards should minimize potentially significant wastewater surcharges and fines to the owner/operator. Please call the following numbers for more information or if we can assist in answering questions.

Chief Building Official, (806) 775-2208  
Industrial Waste Monitoring and Pretreatment (806) 775-3221

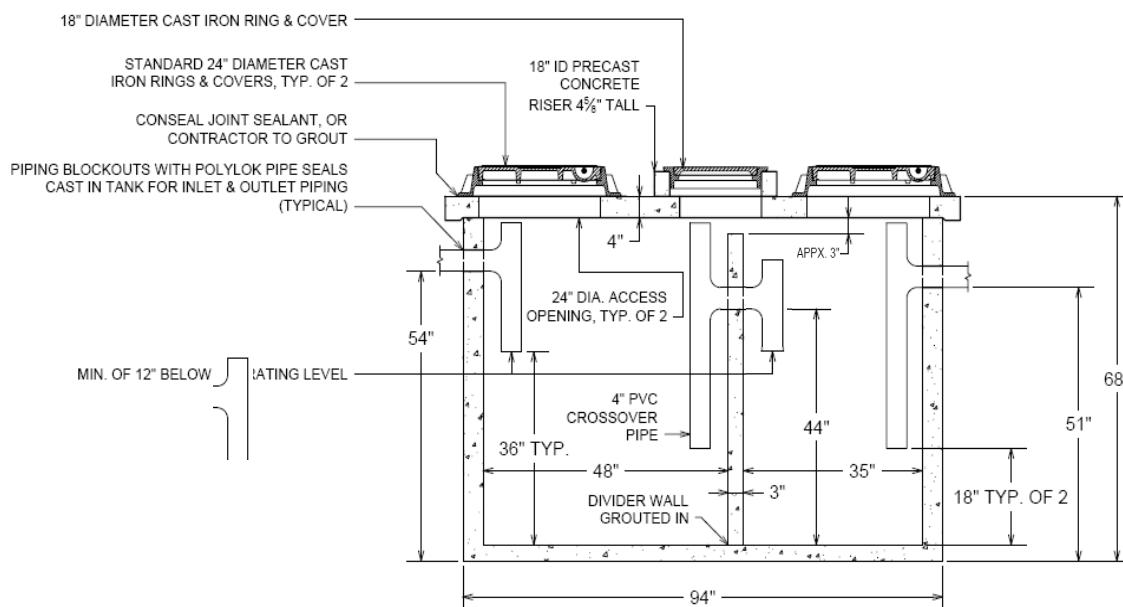


## WASTEWATER

### GUIDANCE DOCUMENT FOR SIZING AND INSTALLATION OF GREASE INTERCEPTORS



PLAN VIEW



SECTION VIEW

City of Lubbock Water, Utilities, Industrial Waste Monitoring and Pretreatment  
(806) 775-3221

## **Part I: Guidance for Grease Interceptor Sizing and Design Criteria**

### **A. Introduction:**

Information contained within this document is based on standard industry practices and guidance found in both the 2015 International Plumbing Code (IPC) Commentary and the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC), Appendix H. Size, type, and location of grease traps shall be in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, City of Lubbock Plumbing Codes Section, and Code of Ordinance, 22.04, Wastewater System, Division 5, Section 255.

### **B. Applicability:**

These requirements are applicable to all commercial food service establishments, including those that are undergoing:

1. New construction.
2. Interior remodeling to accommodate expansion or operational modifications.
3. Changes of ownership/occupancy.
4. Any facility which may be experiencing difficulty achieving compliance with maintenance and/or wastewater discharge limitations.

### **C. Sizing Requirements:**

Sizing methods described herein are intended as guidance in determining grease trap/interceptor sizes that will afford the City's sanitary sewer system a minimum degree of protection against grease and other obstructing materials. In approving a customer's plumbing or grease interceptor design, the City does not accept liability for the failure of a system to adequately treat wastewater to achieve effluent quality requirements specified under City of Lubbock, Code of Ordinance 22.04, Wastewater System, Division 3, Section 255. It is the responsibility of the generator and/or contractors to insure the appropriate level of treatment necessary for compliance with wastewater regulations.

Minimum acceptable grease interceptor sizing shall be accomplished as follows:

- a. Sizing according to formulas found in Section D below.
- b. Where sizing formulas result in determination of a grease interceptor less than 750 gallons in capacity, this minimum size is required wherever possible.
- c. In the circumstance of "single service kitchens" with no food preparation (heat/serve only), and which use only paper service items, a minimum 50 gallon per minute (gpm) flow rated, or 100-pound grease retention, mechanical grease trap may be used. In these instances, the grease trap is to be installed in an area separate from food handling area, and the trap must be readily accessible for cleaning and maintenance. (See Section F, below)

### **D. Grease Interceptor Sizing Formulas:**

It is the responsibility of the generator and his/her contractors to ensure that the wastewater discharged from their facility is in compliance with the City's discharge limitations. For the purpose of plans review, a general assessment of grease trap/interceptor design and size will be performed using the following formulas. (These formulas have been demonstrated as industry

standards capable of achieving the City's discharge criteria when systems are maintained in proper condition.)

Method 1: Uniform Plumbing Code, Appendix H (Grease Interceptor Sizing Worksheet Available)

Number of meals x waste flow x retention x storage = Size Requirement  
Per peak hour (1) rate (2) time (3) factor (4) (liquid capacity)

Factors:

- 1) Number of meals served at peak operating hour (Seating Capacity) x Peak Factor
  - a. Where Peak Factor for Fast Food Restaurant is..... 1.33
  - b. And, Peak Factor for all other food service types is....1.00
- 2) Waste Flow Rate:
  - a. With Dishwasher.....6-gallon flow
  - b. Without Dishwasher.....5-gallon flow
  - c. Single Service kitchen..... 2-gallon flow
  - d. Food waste disposer..... 1-gallon flow
- 3) Retention Times
  - a. Commercial kitchen waste/dishwasher.....2.5 hours
  - b. Single service kitchen/single serving.....1.5 hours
- 4) Storage Factors
  - a. Fully equipped commercial kitchen ....8 hr. operation...1
  - b. .....16 hr. operation...2
  - c. .....24 hr. operation...3
  - d. Single Service Kitchen..... 1.5

The Uniform Plumbing code includes a built-in safety factor that can yield very large grease interceptor size specifications. At this time, the City is not requiring interceptors larger than 2,000 gallons. However, the decision to use a trap smaller than that specified by the formula and calculations above is to be addressed in the plan submission.

Method 2: Five (5) Hour Detention/Peak Flow

- A. Gallons of water used per hour of operation
- B. A x 0.75 = average "gray water" flow per hour
- C. B x 1.9 peak flow factor
- D. C x 5 hours detention = volume of trap Required

volume of trap = A x B x C x D

## **E. Alternate Sizing Formulas / Proposals**

Food service establishments that propose the use of alternate sizing techniques and/or procedures that result in specifications that differ from calculated requirements (or are less than the **MIMUM 750-gallon** recommendation), must submit:

1. Alternate Sizing Worksheet - must be signed by a licensed plumbing contractor or professional engineer.
2. Alternate Sizing Letter – must be signed by the owner/operator of the facility.
3. Data to support the installation of the proposed alternate size grease interceptor and any documentation that demonstrates the facility's ability to meet effluent quality requirements.
4. Detailed specifications on the grease interceptor/trap being proposed.

Grease and oil interceptors/traps shall be constructed of impervious materials capable of withstanding abrupt and extreme changes in temperature. They shall be of substantial construction, watertight and equipped with easily removable covers which, when bolted in place, shall be gastight and watertight. Proposed grease interceptors/traps shall not:

- a. Warp, twist, become distorted or deformed when properly installed.
- b. Be constructed of materials that are easily corroded by wastewater and/or the gases associated with wastewater.

## **F. Construction/Installation:**

All permitting, construction, and inspection activities must be completed in accordance with the City of Lubbock Plumbing Code. Additionally, the following specifications must be incorporated into grease interceptor design.

- a. The grease interceptor shall be constructed with a minimum of one baffle.
- b. Grease interceptors are to be installed at a minimum distance of 10 ft. from sinks and dishwashers to allow for adequate cooling of the wastewater. Water temperatures must be less than 120 degrees prior to entering grease interceptor.
- c. All grease bearing waste streams should be routed through an appropriate grease interceptor, including: three-compartment sinks, pot/pan sinks, soup kettles, hand-washing sinks, dishwashers, mop sinks and floor drains.

*Notable Exceptions:* Drains that receive “clear waste” only, such as from ice machines, and condensate from coils a may be plumbed to the sanitary system without passing through the grease interceptor with the condition that the receiving drain is a “hub” type that is a minimum of two inches above the finished floor.

- d. All concrete grease interceptors will be equipped with three manholes. Two twenty-four-inch diameter manhole type rings and lids, one on the primary side and one on the secondary side to serve as maintenance access ports. The center inspection port shall be located over the baffle wall piping with a minimum eighteen-inch diameter cast iron ring and lid.
- e. Acceptable materials that can be used to construct risers for manholes and/or center

inspection ports on concrete interceptors are as follows:

**Traffic Rated locations:**

1. Concrete Grade Rings- 4,000 PSI minimum
2. Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP) – 4000 PSI minimum

**Non-Traffic locations:**

1. Concrete Grade Rings - 4,000 PSI minimum
2. Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP) - 4000 PSI minimum
3. High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) Grade Rings
4. Black Double Wall Corrugated HDPE Pipe

**Note:** Bricks, cinder blocks, wood products, corrugated galvanized steel or aluminum pipe, PVC pipe and any other materials not listed above are not acceptable to construct manhole risers for concrete grease interceptors. If these materials are used, the materials will be required to be removed and corrected with ***no exceptions.***

**Grout & Sealants:**

1. Ram-Nek or its equivalent must be used to seal between the grease interceptor lid, each grade ring and the manhole ring.
2. The first grade ring must also be grouted to the grease interceptor lid.

**Composite, Polyethylene, and Fiberglass Grease Interceptors:**

These interceptors may only use manufacturer supplied manhole and inspection port risers. If located in traffic areas the interceptors, risers and lids must be H-20 rated.

All Grease Interceptors are to be installed with an Effluent Sampling Well. Sample wells will have a minimum 10" diameter access cover and a minimum 6" drop from inlet to outlet piping through the sampling well. Sample wells must be located in areas that are protected from vehicle traffic, where they cannot be driven over or parked on. Mechanical grease traps that are installed must be equipped with an influent flow regulator. Mechanical grease traps and interceptors are required to have an Effluent Sampling Well that allow for sample collection.

**G. Customer (Generator) Responsibilities:**

It is the responsibility of the customer (waste generator) to insure compliance with the City of Lubbock's discharge limitations specified in City of Lubbock, Code of Ordinance 22.04, Wastewater System, Division 3, Section 255.

Hazardous wastes, such as acids, strong cleaners, pesticides, herbicides, paint, solvents, or gasoline shall not be disposed of where they would go through grease interceptors or grit traps. Care must be taken in system design when commercial dishwashers are discharged through a grease interceptor. Dishwashers use detergents and elevated water temperatures that will melt grease. If the interceptor is either too small or too close to the commercial dishwasher, grease may pass through the interceptor and into the collection system.

Generators are responsible for maintaining grease interceptors in continuous proper working condition, by removing the oil and grease buildup in the interceptor at a minimum of once every ninety (90) days to ensure compliance with, City Of Lubbock, Code of Ordinance, 22.04. 256(c) (1). If a user can, at his/her own expense, produce scientific evidence consisting of FOG test results analyzed in accordance with Code of Federal Regulations, 40

CFR 136.3, as same may be amended from time to time, that establishes that a ninety (90) day pumping schedule is not necessary to otherwise comply with this article, the director of water utilities may prescribe an alternate maintenance interval for such user. Evaluation of the disputed trap maintenance schedule shall be performed on a case-by-case basis requiring scientific evidence for each individual factual situation.

Further, generators are responsible for inspecting, repairing, replacing, or installing apparatus and equipment as necessary to ensure proper operation and function of grease interceptors and compliance with discharge limitations at all times.

The City of Lubbock and TCEQ require grease trap/interceptor maintenance records be maintained on site for three (3) years.

The City of Lubbock, Industrial Waste Monitoring and Pretreatment (IWMP) section discourages the use of enzymes, solvents, and emulsifiers as they will only change the form of grease, allowing it to be carried out of the trap/interceptor with the wastewater and deposited in the collection system.

## **Part II: Other types of Interceptors and sizing requirements**

Interceptors are required for oil, grease, sand and other substances harmful or hazardous to the building drainage system, the public sewer or sewage treatment plant. Design, size, and location of pretreatment devices must be submitted by a licensed plumbing contractor or professional engineer for review and approval.

### **A. Laundries**

Commercial Laundries, Laundromats, and dry-cleaners shall be equipped with an interceptor in order to reduce the quantity of lint and silt that enter the collection system. The system must be of adequate size and design to allow for cool-down of wastewater so that separation can be more readily achieved. The interceptor must be installed with a wire basket or similar device, removable for cleaning that prevents passage into the drainage system of solids larger than 1/4 inch in any dimension, string, rags, buttons or other materials detrimental to the public sewerage system.

Sizing must be in accordance with guidance found in the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC), Appendix H, which uses the following formula:

$$(TGC) \times (CPH) \times (RT) \times (ST) = \text{Size of Lint Interceptor (gallons)}$$

Where:

TGC = Total Gallons per Cycle

CPH = Cycles per hour

RT = Retention time

2.5 for Institutional Laundry

2.0 for Standard Commercial Laundry

1.5 Light Commercial Laundry

ST = Storage Factor, based on hours of operation;

1.0 for 8 hours of operation

1.5 for 12 or more hours

Currently, no effluent sample well is required for small commercial laundries. However, large and/or industrial laundries may be subject to Federal Pretreatment regulations. For more information please contact the, Industrial Waste Monitoring and Pretreatment Division, at (806) 775-3221.

## **B. Car Washes**

Self-service car washes shall have grit separators with a minimum capacity of 1000 gallons for the first bay, with an additional 500 gallons of capacity for every other bay.

Additionally, wash racks must be constructed to eliminate or minimize the impact of run-off from rain/storm events. Minimum requirements are roofed structures with at least two walls and appropriate grading to prevent stormwater infiltration into the sanitary sewer.

An effluent sampling well is required, per specifications listed in Part 1, Section F, Subsection e.

## **C. Automotive Repair Facilities (Garages and Service Stations)**

Where automobiles are serviced, greased, or repaired or where gasoline is dispensed, oil/water separators shall have a minimum capacity of 500 gallons for the first 1000 square feet of area to be drained, plus 250 gallons for each additional 1000 square feet of area to be drained into the separator.

An effluent sampling well is required, per specifications listed in Part 1, Section F, Subsection e.

Note: Parking garages shall not require a grit separator unless vehicle servicing, repairing, washing or, gasoline dispensing occurs. Areas in commercial garages utilized only for storage of automobiles are not required to be drained through a grit separator.

## **D. Hydraulic Elevators**

Where hydraulic elevators are in operation, an oil/water separator shall be in use. An effluent sampling well is **not** required. Sizing shall be provided by a licensed engineer and approved by the City of Lubbock Pretreatment Department.

# Known Vendors:

Grease Interceptors, Grease Traps, Sample Test Wells, Drain Grates & Screens

Company	Phone	Products
<b>C&amp;M Supply Co.</b> Lubbock, Texas	(806) 747-3557	Plastic Grease Traps, 50 & 70 GPM, Drain Grates & Screens
<b>Ferguson Bath &amp; Kitchen</b> Lubbock, Texas	(806) 762-0241	Precast Concrete Interceptors, Sample Test Wells, Drain Grates & Screens
<b>Morrison Supply Co.</b> Lubbock, Texas	(806) 765-6888	Sample Test Wells, Drain Grates & Screens
<b>Oberkampf Supply</b> Lubbock, Texas	(806) 747-4481	Precast Concrete Interceptors, Sample Test Wells, Drain Grates & Screens
<b>Vaughn Concrete Prods. Inc.</b> Amarillo, Texas	(877) 827-8255	Precast Concrete Interceptors, Sample Test Wells
<b>Consolidated Concrete Prods.</b> Hewitt, Texas	(254) 666-4000	Precast Concrete Interceptors, Sample Test Wells
<b>Drain Saver</b> Lubbock, Texas	(888) 557-2837	Commercial & Residential Drain filters
<b>Manville's</b> Newbury Park, California	(805) 499-5565	Floor Sink Liners
<b>Green Turtle Americas</b> Charlotte, NC	(877) 428-8187	Grease & Solids Interceptors Oil & Sediment Interceptors, Sample Test Wells
<b>Park USA</b> Dallas, Texas	(866) 842-8801	Grease, Oil & Sand Interceptors Sample Test Wells Inlets / Acid Tanks
<b>Schier Products</b> Edwardsville, KS	(800) 827-7119	Grease, Oil & Sand Interceptors Sample Test Wells
<b>Canplas</b>	(888) 461-5307	Grease & Solids Interceptors, Sample Test Wells

The companies or vendors listed above are those currently known to the City of Lubbock as providing pretreatment devices, products or equipment. It is possible that other companies or vendors may manufacture and/or provide other acceptable pretreatment devices, products or equipment. In the event you would like to know whether the product, device or equipment you are considering installing is acceptable to the City of Lubbock, please contact the City Of Lubbock Industrial Waste Monitoring & Pretreatment Office at 775-3221.

# Grease Interceptor Sizing Worksheet

The Uniform Plumbing Code Formula

Company		Calculated By		Date																																					
Project		Location																																							
Follow these six simple steps to determine grease interceptor size.																																									
<table border="0"> <tr> <td colspan="2">No of Meals</td> <td colspan="2"></td> <td colspan="2">Calculated</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Per Peak</td> <td>Waste Flow</td> <td>Retention</td> <td>Storage</td> <td>Interceptor</td> <td>Grease</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hours</td> <td>Rate</td> <td>Time</td> <td>Factor</td> <td>Size</td> <td>Interceptor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Enter Calculations &gt; Here</td> <td><input type="text"/></td> <td>X <input type="text"/></td> <td>X <input type="text"/></td> <td>X <input type="text"/></td> <td>= <input type="text"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Step 1</td> <td>Step 2</td> <td>Step 3</td> <td>Step 4</td> <td>Step 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Step 6</td> </tr> </table>						No of Meals				Calculated		Per Peak	Waste Flow	Retention	Storage	Interceptor	Grease	Hours	Rate	Time	Factor	Size	Interceptor	Enter Calculations > Here	<input type="text"/>	X <input type="text"/>	X <input type="text"/>	X <input type="text"/>	= <input type="text"/>		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5						Step 6
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	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5																																				
					Step 6																																				
1	<b>Number of Meals Per Peak Hour (Recommended Formula):</b> Seating Capacity      Meal Factor      Meals per Peak Hour <input type="text"/> X <input type="text"/> = <input type="text"/>			<b>Notes:</b>																																					
2	<b>Establishment Type:</b> Fast Food (45 min)      Meal Factor 1.33 Restaurant (60 min)      1.00 Leisure Dining (90 min)      0.67 Dinner Club (120 min)      0.50			<b>Notes:</b>																																					
3	<b>Waste Flow Rate:</b> <b>Condition</b> <b>Flow Rate</b> With a Dishwashing Machine      6 Gallons Without a Dishwashing Machine      5 Gallons Single Service Kitchen      2 Gallons Food Waste Disposer Only      1 Gallon			<b>Notes:</b>																																					
4	<b>Retention Time</b> Commercial Kitchen Waste      2.5 Hours Dishwasher Single Service Kitchen      1.5 Hours			<b>Notes:</b>																																					
5	<b>Storage Factor</b> <b>Kitchen Type</b> <b>Storage Factor</b> Fully Equipped Commercial Hours of Operation 8 Hours      1.00 12 Hours      1.50 16 Hours      2.00 24 Hours      3.00 Single Service Kitchen      1.50			<b>Notes:</b>																																					
6	<b>Calculate Liquid Capacity</b> Multiply the values obtained from step 1, 2, 3 and 4. The result is the approximate grease interceptor size for this application  <b>Select Grease Interceptor</b> Using the approximate required liquid capacity from step 5, select an appropriate size as recommended by the manufacturer.			<b>Notes:</b>																																					

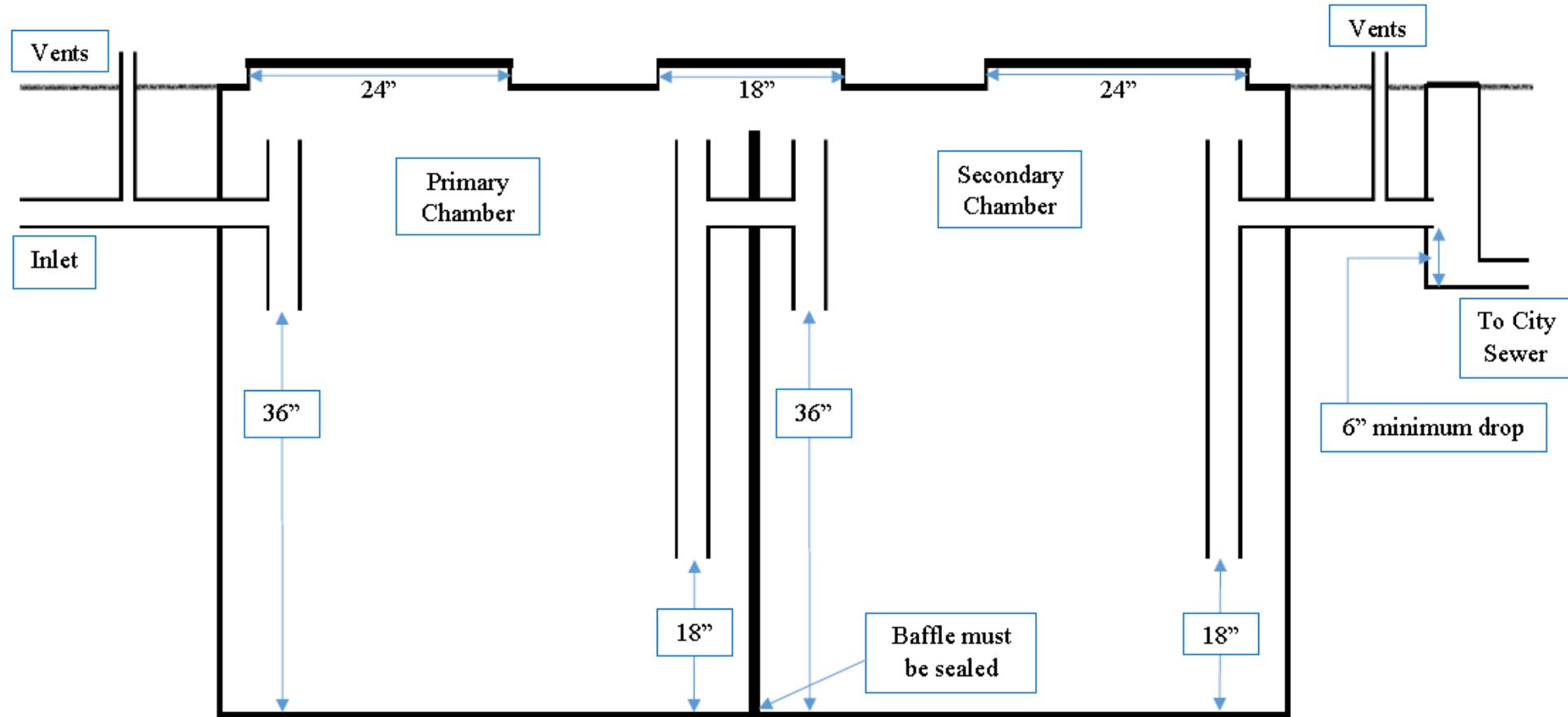
For WMP Use Only

Date:

Name of Approver:

Signature:

# Typical Grease Interceptor and Sample Port

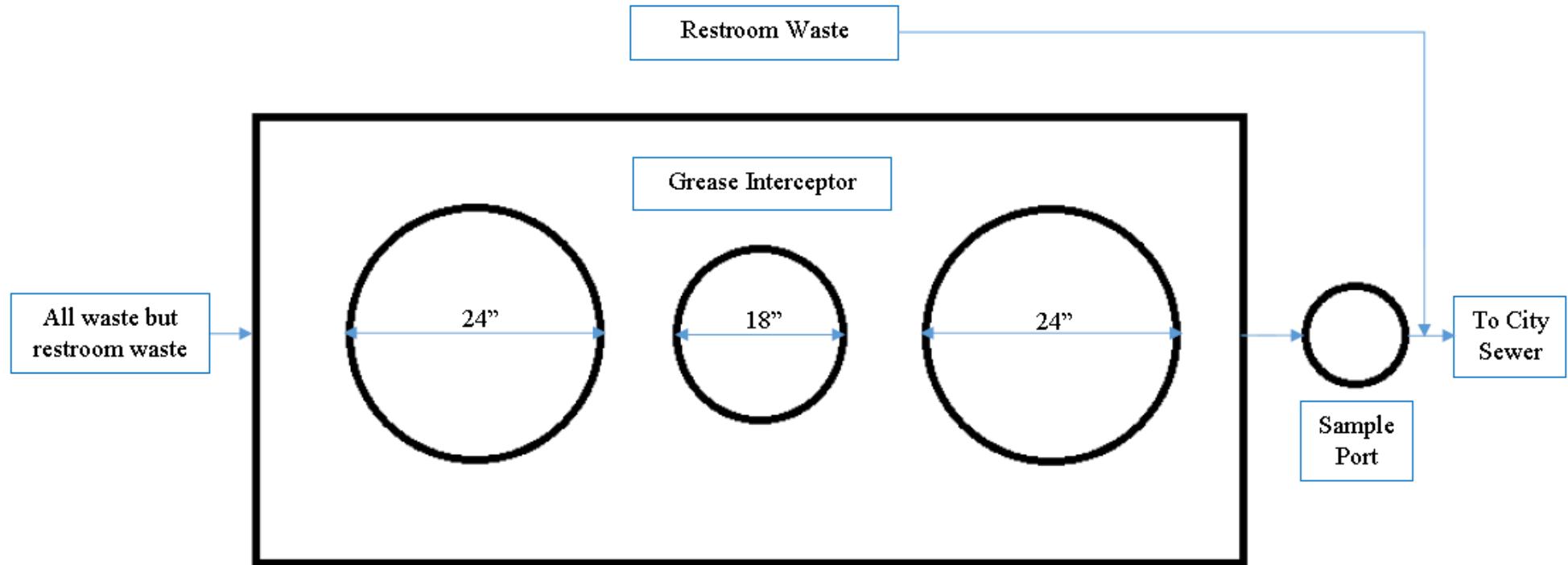


## Notes on Grease Interceptors:

1. Ram-Nek, or equivalent, must be used in between grease interceptor to riser, riser to riser, and riser to ring
2. Risers, rings and lids must be made to match traffic rating
3. Rings must be anchored to the riser and riser to the grease interceptor
4. Lids must be at or above grade
5. Primary and secondary chamber manholes must be 24" minimum and over the piping tees
6. Baffle wall must not leak between two chambers
7. Center Manhole must be minimum of 18" and over baffle wall piping

For more information  
please call the Industrial  
Waste Monitoring and  
Pretreatment office at  
(806) 775-3221

# Typical Grease Interceptor and Sample Port Layout

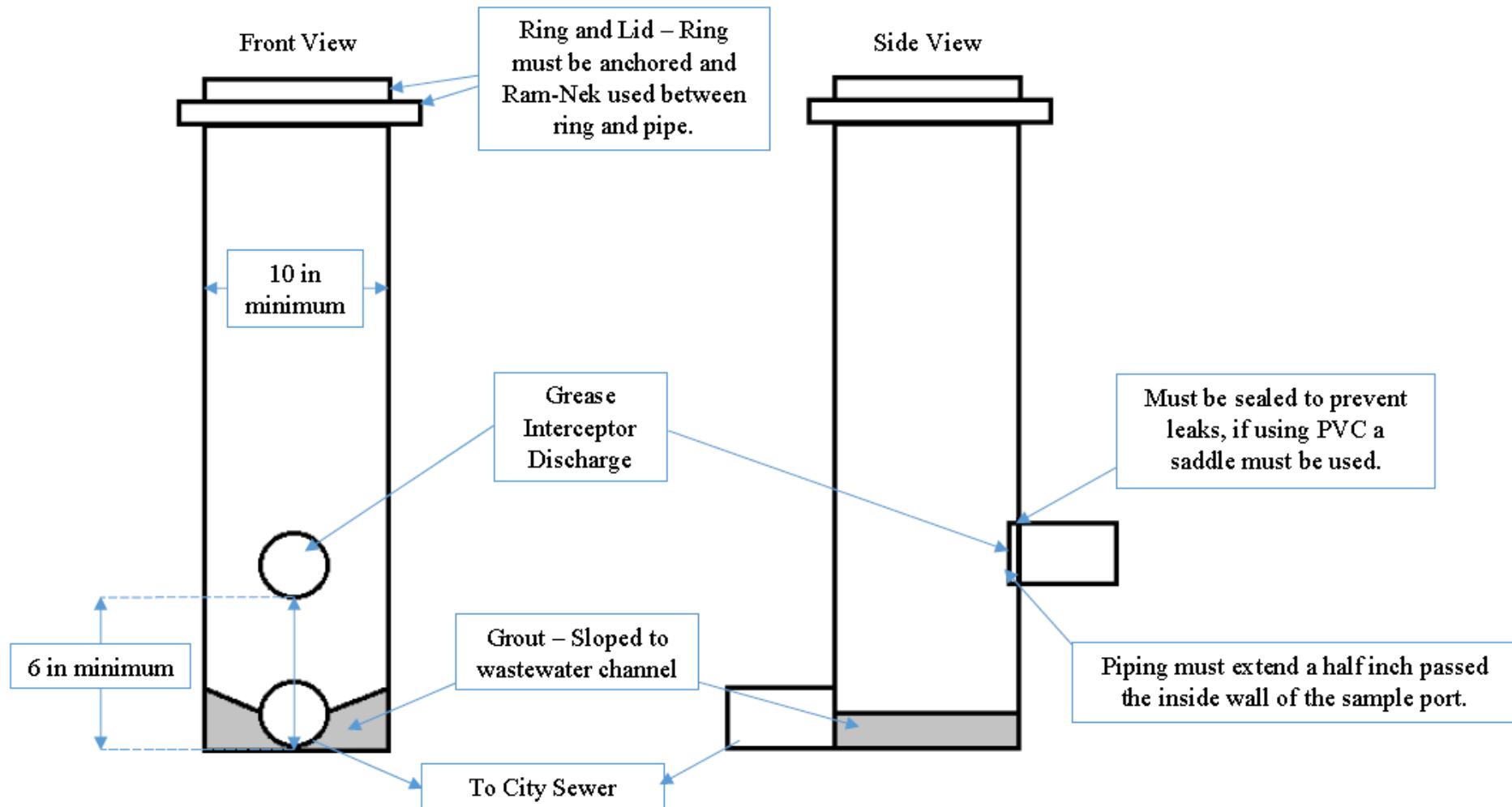


## Notes:

1. The openings on the grease interceptor must be over the internal piping.
2. The grease interceptor must have an 18 inch (minimum) inspection port if the interceptor contains a baffle.
3. The grease interceptor can be in a traffic location if it meets H-20 requirements.
4. The sample port must have a 6 inch (minimum) drop from inlet to out.
5. The sample port cannot hold water.

For more information  
please call the Industrial  
Waste Monitoring and  
Pretreatment office at  
(806) 775-3221

# Typical Sample Port



## Notes on Sample Ports:

1. Sample ports must drain completely and not hold any water. Sample ports holding water will not be approved.
2. Samples ports that are "straight-through" must be approved prior to the rough inspection. Failure to do so may result in a failed inspection.
3. Sample ports cannot be in a traffic area.

For more information please call the Industrial Waste Monitoring and Pretreatment office at (806) 775-3221

# IWMP Bollard Requirements

- The minimum size of bollards shall be:
  - 4 feet tall
  - 2 feet deep (buried in concrete)
  - 6 inches in diameter
- Minimum of 4 bollards surrounding sample ports
  - All bollards must be 4 feet apart
  - Walls or curbs only account for 2 bollards
- All bollards must be metal pipe filled with concrete
  - All exposed metal shall be painted traffic yellow
- All bollards must be approved by IWMP personnel prior to installation

