



WOODLANDS DIVISION

www.SJRA.net/woodlands
281-367-9511

Interceptor Maintenance

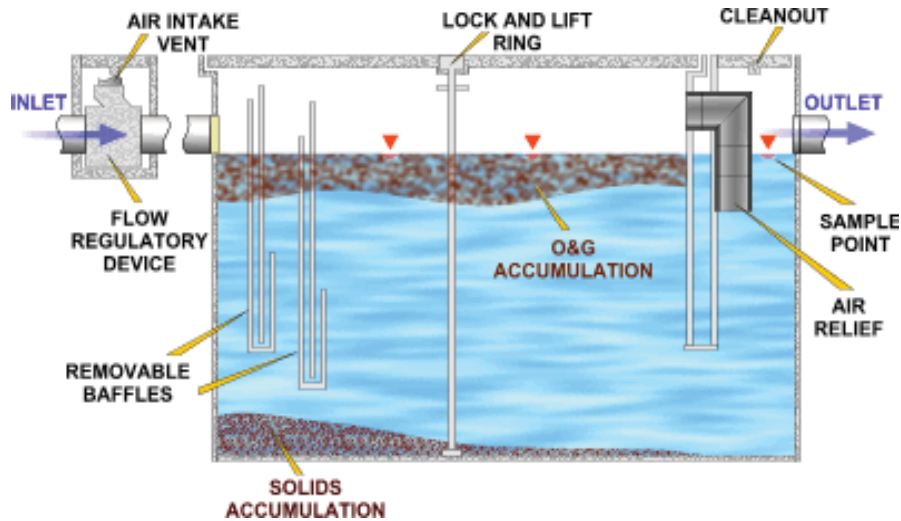
It is important to clean your interceptor regularly to prevent FOG from entering the sewer system. The minimum cleaning frequency of an interceptor is every 90 days unless a waiver has been approved. However, more frequent cleaning intervals may be necessary to prevent the interceptor from operating poorly or improperly. Under-sink interceptor maintenance is generally performed by employees of the establishment. Large, in-ground interceptor maintenance must be performed by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) licensed haulers or recyclers. In both cases, the maintenance of the interceptor consists of removing the entire volume (liquids and solids) from the interceptor and properly disposing of the material in accordance with all Federal, State, and local laws.

When performed properly and at the appropriate frequency, interceptor maintenance can greatly reduce the discharge of FOG into the sewer system. The required maintenance frequency for interceptors depends greatly on the amount of FOG a facility generates as well as any best management practices (BMPs) that the establishment implements. In many cases, establishments that implement BMPs will realize financial benefit through a reduction in the frequency of required interceptor maintenance due to the reduction of FOG in the interceptor. Please refer to our website at <http://www.sjra.net/woodlands/fog-fats-oils-grease/commercial-industrial/> for additional information regarding FOG and BMPs for interceptors.

WARNING! Do not flush with hot water or use drain cleaners, acids, caustics, solvents, enzymes, bacteria, or emulsifying agents when cleaning interceptors. These actions do not remove grease. They only allow it to pass further into the sewer system where it becomes more costly and difficult to remove.

Interceptor Maintenance – Under-Sink Interceptor

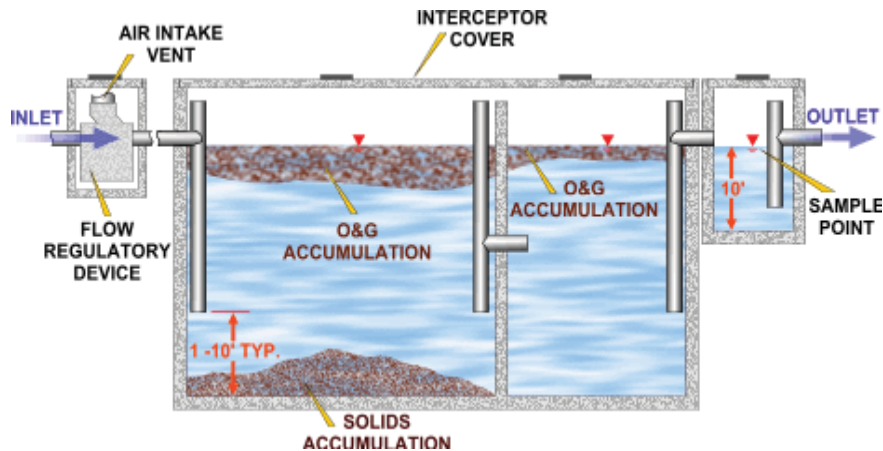
A proper maintenance procedure for an **under-sink interceptor** is outlined below:



Step	Action
1	Facility owners may clean their own under-sink interceptor provided they receive written approval from SJRA annually, and the interceptor is no more than fifty (50) gallons in liquid/operating capacity.
2	Dip the accumulated grease out of the interceptor and deposit in a leak proof, sealable, and watertight container.
3	Remove baffles if possible.
4	Scrape the sides, the lid, and the baffles with a putty knife to remove as much of the grease as possible, and deposit the grease into a watertight container.
5	Remove solids from the bottom with a strainer or similar device.
6	Replace the baffle and the lid.
7	Record the volume of grease removed on the maintenance log.
8	Contact a hauler or recycler for grease pick-up. Keep a copy of waste manifest for every event.
9	Self-cleaning activities should not violate any Federal, State, or Local laws.

Interceptor Maintenance – In-Ground Interceptor

In-ground interceptors, due to their size, need to be cleaned by TCEQ licensed grease haulers or recyclers. A proper maintenance procedure for an interceptor is outlined below:



Step	Action
1	Contact a TCEQ licensed grease hauler or recycler for cleaning.
2	Hauler pumps out the entire contents of the interceptor, (all chambers).
3	Hauler cleans the sides, the lid, and the baffles to remove as much of the grease as possible.
4	Replace the baffle and the lid.
5	Inspect the physical condition of interceptor each time the interceptor is cleaned.
6	Record the cleaning event on the maintenance log.
7	Keep a copy of waste manifest for every event.