



**City of Gastonia**  
**Public Works and Utilities Department**  
**Fats, Oil, Grease & Grit Pretreatment Device Requirements**

**I. New Construction**

A. All newly constructed Food Service Establishments are required to have a grease interceptor, per City of Gastonia Standard Detail 71B-28A or 71B-28B, or equivalent. All newly constructed Automotive Establishments are required to have an oil/grit separator, per City of Gastonia Standard Detail 71B-29, or equivalent.

B. Grease Interceptors and Oil/Grit Separators must be approved in writing, prior to installation, by the Public Works and Utilities Department.

**II. Existing Structures**

A. Retrofits. If a food or automotive service establishment is operated in a facility previously used for another purpose, the facility must be upgraded to current new construction standards within six months of opening.

B. Re-opening of a food or automotive service establishment. If any food or automotive establishment closes for a time period greater than thirty days and re-opens, whether as the same or another establishment, the facility must be upgraded to current new construction standards within six months of re-opening.

**III. Variance**

A. Any sewer user wishing to apply for a variance from the requirements listed herein must submit a completed Waste Survey / Permit Application and a letter stating the variance requested including justification of such to the Public Works and Utilities Department. In the case of an existing facility, an on site inspection may be conducted. The user may be required to submit additional information at the discretion of the Public Works and Utilities Department.

B. The following factors will be considered in a variance evaluation. Food Service: type of serving ware used, menu items served/prepared, hours of operation. Automotive: type of work conducted, number of drains and service bays, if any. All establishments: space and elevation constraints.

C. The Public Works and Utilities Department will respond to variance requests within thirty days of receipt of all requested information and the on site inspection, if required.

**IV. Additional Requirements**

If, at any time, a facility is unable to meet the Oil & Grease limit established in the City of Gastonia Code of Ordinances or the Wastewater Discharge Permit or if the investigation of a sewer blockage or overflow indicates the discharge from a facility contributed to the blockage or overflow, installation of a new or additional pretreatment device may be required at the discretion of the Public Works and Utilities Department. In such cases, the required pretreatment device may be larger than that required for new construction.