



*Department of Watershed Management
Fats, Oils and Grease Division*

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Q:** How do I get to the FOG permit information?
A: Click on Departments
Click on FOG
Click on Permitting Information
2. **Q:** Why are there permitting fees now?
A: As a requirement by the Environmental Protection Division (EPD), DeKalb County must use a program to efficiently monitor, maintain and properly react to issues regarding the public sanitary sewer system. Under the requirements for Capacity Management Operations Maintenance Program, the Fats, Oils and Grease program is recommended to incorporate a permitting program for grease interceptors.
3. **Q:** How did the county devise these fees?
A: Inspectors researched permit fees across the country as well as local governments. Also, an analysis on the actual costs of duties performed was completed (i.e. vehicles, equipment, wages, etc.)
4. **Q:** What if I have a 300 pounds interceptor inside, do I still clean it once a month?
A: If you have any interior interceptor you must have it cleaned once a month unless the Compliance Inspector informs you otherwise. There are some places in the county that can not install exterior traps because of demographics, environmental, and topography reasons. These generators are informed of their cleaning schedules.
5. **Q:** Am I grandfathered?
A: Your establishment is grandfathered if your existing Food Service Establishments (FSE) is housed in a structure that because of its architectural or historical restrictions, the owner will suffer extreme economic hardship and therefore can not upgrade the FOG interceptor.
6. **Q:** If my establishment is grandfathered what is my cleaning schedule?
A: The FOG interceptor must be at least fifteen (15) feet away from all fresh air fixtures and must be cleaned every ten (10) days by a licensed hauler, unless deemed differently by the Compliance Inspector.
7. **Q:** Can I empty my grease trap waste in the drum outside?
A: No, in-house cleaning is strictly prohibited. You must have a licensed hauler to maintain and clean your grease interceptor.
8. **Q:** How often are the fees paid?
A: The permit fees are paid once a year. After an initial evaluation, you will not need another evaluation unless there is re-modeling or any other changes that may change the amount of FOG produced.
9. **Q:** Where do I find a licensed Hauler?
A: Licensed Haulers can be found in the yellow pages under grease traps. To ensure that the chosen hauler is licensed please refer to the Georgia FOG Alliance website at: www.georgiafog.com.
10. **Q:** If I decide to change or modify my business, what are my responsibilities to the FOG Dept.?
A: If there is re-modeling, seating changes, menu changes you shall notify the Fats, Oils and Grease Department to ensure compliance of your existing grease interceptor.

11. **Q:** Will the County assist me if I have an economic hardship?

A: If there is any kind of economic hardship dealing with permit fees or increasing the interceptor size, you must contact a FOG Supervisor at (770)724-1480 and supply documentation of this hardship. If a hardship is determined by the supervisor and, extension will be granted.

12. **Q:** How can I pay for my permit?

A: There are several ways to pay permit fees:

- Pay online at: www.dekalbwatershed.com/fog_permit_payment (coming soon)
- Contact your inspector to meet at your location.
- Contact inspector to pay by phone.
- Contact your inspector to set up an in office meeting and pay with a check, credit card or money order by appointment only. Our office is located at 1580 Roadhaven Dr. Stone Mountain, GA 30083.