

Ordinance amending Chapter 55, Code of Ordinances, Article XVII, Maintenance and Operation of Grease Interceptors and Oil/Sand Interceptors, Sections 55-219 through 55-223

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That Chapter 55, City of Corpus Christi Code of Ordinances, Article XVII, is revised to delete the following struck-through text and insert the following underlined text:

ARTICLE XVII. MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF GREASE INTERCEPTORS AND OIL/SAND INTERCEPTORS

~~Sec. 55-220. Maintenance and operation of interceptors.~~

~~Sec. 55-221. Undersized interceptors.~~

~~Sec. 55-222. Enforcement.~~

~~Secs. 55-223—55-245. Reserved.~~

Sec. 55-219. Definitions

In this article, the following terms are defined as:

“Director” means the department director over wastewater operations, or designee.

“Interceptor”. The term “interceptor” includes grease removal devices, oil/sand interceptors, and related devices.

Sec. 55-220. Installation, Maintenance, and operation, and cleaning of interceptors.

(a) ~~Cleaning required~~Installation of Interceptors. The owner, operator or manager of a premises shall install an interceptor as required by the City Plumbing Code.

(b) Maintenance of interceptors. The owner, operator or manager of a premises with an interceptor shall be required to maintain the interceptor as follows:

~~(1) Interceptors shall be cleaned a minimum of once a quarter.~~ (1) Interceptors must be maintained in an efficient operating condition by removal of accumulated grease, oil, or sand. Interceptors must be maintained in the original manufacturer’s condition and must not be altered.

~~(2) The wastewater superintendent may require more frequent cleaning of interceptors than once a quarter or upgrading of an interceptor to the current requirements in the Plumbing Code, if the interceptor discharges grease, oil, or sand into the sanitary sewer system.~~ (2) It shall be a violation for the owner, operator or manager of with an interceptor to fail to clean or maintain an interceptor as required by this City Code.

(cb) Cleaning required. The owner, operator or manager of a premises with an interceptor shall be required to clean the interceptor as follows:

(1) Unless otherwise authorized in writing by the Director, all interceptors must be completely cleaned and pumped out by a City-permitted waste hauler upon the earliest occurrence of any of the following events:

- a. The accumulation of fats, oil, or grease and other solids in the last downstream compartment of the interceptor is 25% or more of the interceptor's designed depth; or
- b. The grease layer thickness in the last downstream compartment of the interceptor is six (6) inches or more; or
- c. Any discharge from the interceptor exceeds levels established by the City by ordinance in Section 55-141 of this Code of Ordinances as amended; or
- d. Every 90 days since the last cleaning; or
- e. Inspection from the City's wastewater collection mains indicates grease discharge from the interceptor.

(2) In no case will the frequency of cleaning and pumping be less than once every six months unless the interceptor has been removed or taken out of service by disconnecting the interceptor piping and bypassing all flow around the interceptor. Interceptors taken out of service must be cleaned and drained to remove any standing water and must not create an odor nor health or safety nuisance.

(b)(de) Records.

- (1) The owner, operator, or manager of a premises which has a interceptor shall have records that show all of the items listed under section 55-164(b), Manifest Contents.
- (2) The owner, operator, or manager of the establishment-premises that utilizes an interceptor shall maintain a file that includes, at a minimum, maintenance manifest reports for the current month and the previous twelve-month five year period. The records shall be kept on the premises at all times and shall be made available for review during normal business hours upon request by the wastewater superintendent or his authorized representative Director.

(e)(ed) Grease, oil, and sand collected. The grease collected from a grease interceptor, any waste cooking oils and greases used in food preparation, or any oil or sand from an oil/sand interceptor may not be discharged into any sanitary or storm sewer. The grease, cooking oil, cooking grease, oil, or sand collected shall be taken to an authorized facility for disposal by a liquid waste hauler that holds a current valid permit issued by the City for this activity.

(d)(fe) Use of bacteria and chemicals prohibited. ~~without approval. No bacteria or chemicals may be added to an interceptor without the approval of the wastewater superintendent. The wastewater superintendent may permit the use of any specific bacteria or chemical on a temporary or permanent basis, if the bacteria or chemical will not cause problems in either the sanitary sewer system or publicly owned treatment works~~ The introduction in the interceptor or associated plumbing of additives such as bacteria, enzymes, emulsifiers, or similar agents designed for the purpose of emulsifying or controlling discharge of fats, oils and grease is strictly prohibited.

(Ord. No. 23652, § 1, 5-25-1999)

Sec. 55-221 Inspection of interceptor.

(a) The Director may conduct random inspections of interceptors at any time during regular business hours to ascertain whether the interceptor is being properly cleaned and maintained..

- (b) The purpose of the inspection is to determine compliance with the provisions in subsection (d).
- (c) The initial inspection occurs within six months of issuance of a City permit for installation of the interceptor. Thereafter, the inspection will be an annual inspection, so long as the interceptor is operated in compliance with the requirements in subsection (d).
- (d) The regular inspection frequency is determined by the Director by a performance based system based on compliance with all of the following requirements:
- (1) The interceptor must be properly and timely cleaned and pumped in accordance with Section 55-220 and written directives from the Director.
 - (2) The accumulation of grease and solids in the last downstream compartment of the interceptor must be less than 25% of the interceptor's designed depth.
 - (3) The grease layer thickness in the last downstream compartment of the interceptor must be less than six inches.
 - (4) Any discharge from the interceptor must not exceed levels established in Section 55-141 of this Code of Ordinances.
 - (5) The interceptor must not discharge fats, oils, or grease or any other unpermitted matter into the sanitary sewer.
 - (6) The fats, oils and grease must be removed and transported and disposed in accordance with Article XIII of this Code of Ordinances.
- (e) If the premises is on an annual inspection and remains in compliance with subsection (d) for two successive annual inspections, then the regular inspection frequency is adjusted to thirty-six month inspection frequency.
- (f) If at any time the premises is not in compliance with the requirements of subsection (d), then the regular inspection frequency is increased to minimum of every six months, depending upon the severity of the violation as determined by the Director. Thereafter, if the premises complies with all

provisions in subsection (d) for two consecutive six-month inspections, the inspection frequency is returned to annual inspection.

- (g) The owner, operator or manager of a premises shall make the sampling port of an interceptor readily accessible to the City employees or its contractors or agents for inspection and monitoring activities.

Sec. ~~55-221~~55-222. ~~Undersized interceptors~~Replacement of interceptors.

- (a) An undersized grease interceptor installed prior to November 1, 1993, which does not have additional future fixtures installed, is not be required to be replaced in conformance with the current Plumbing Code, provided that the interceptor does not discharge grease into the sanitary sewer system.
- (b) The ~~wastewater superintendent~~Director may require any interceptor which discharges grease into the sanitary sewer system to be replaced with a grease interceptor which conforms to the ~~sizing standards set out above~~ City Plumbing Code.
- (c) The owner, operator, or manager of a premises that has a grease interceptor, which discharges grease into the sanitary sewer system, shall replace the interceptor within six (6) months from the date of an order issued by the wastewater ~~superintendent~~Director.

(Ord. No. 23652, § 1, 5-25-1999)

Sec. ~~55-222~~, 55-223 Enforcement.

- (a) *General.* Failure to timely clean and keep grease interceptors and sand/oil interceptors clean causes or may cause substantial interference to the publicly owned treatment works, or may cause damage to sanitary sewer facilities or structures, or otherwise may create an emergency condition requiring immediate corrective action. The cleaning of the interceptors and the record keeping required in conjunction therewith is subject to enforcement in the same manner as for violations of the Commercial and Industrial Waste Disposal and Pretreatment Ordinance, section 55-146 Enforcement.

~~Sampling port accessibility. The sampling port of a grease interceptor must be readily accessible to city employees for monitoring activities.~~~~(c)~~

- (b) *Compliance with commercial and industrial waste disposal and pretreatment ordinance required.* The owner, operator, or manager of a premises which has an interceptor ~~grease interceptor or sand and oil interceptor~~ shall comply with the Commercial and Industrial Waste Disposal and Pretreatment Ordinance, sections 55-140—55-149.

- ~~(d)~~(c) *Penalties.* The penalties in section 55-146 Enforcement also apply to a violation of this article.

(Ord. No. 23652, § 1, 5-25-1999)

Secs. 55-~~223~~224—55-245. Reserved.

SECTION 2. The term “Texas Natural Resource Conseration Commission (TNRCC)” is replaced with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) throughout Chapter 55.

SECTION 3. The term “wastewater superintendent” or “superintendent” is replaced with “Director over Wastewater Operations” throughout Chapter 55.

SECTION 4. Publication shall be made in the official publication of the City of Corpus Christi as required by City Charter of the City of Corpus Christi. The ordinance takes effect on publication. Penalties are as provided in Section 55-223.

SECTION 5. Severability.

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance are severable and, if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this Ordinance, since the same would not have been enacted by the City without the incorporation into this Ordinance of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section.

SECTION 6. The change in law made by this Ordinance applies only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Ordinance. An offense committed before the effective date of this Ordinance is governed by the Ordinance in effect when the offense was committed, and the former Ordinance is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this Ordinance if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

That the foregoing ordinance was read for the first time and passed to its second reading on this the _____ day of _____, 2019, by the following vote:

Joe McComb _____
Roland Barrera _____
Rudy Garza _____
Paulette M. Guajardo _____
Gil Hernandez _____

Michael Hunter _____
Ben Molina _____
Everett Roy _____
Greg Smith _____

That the foregoing ordinance was read for the second time and passed finally on this the _____ day of _____ 2019, by the following vote:

Joe McComb _____
Roland Barrera _____
Rudy Garza _____
Paulette M. Guajardo _____
Gil Hernandez _____

Michael Hunter _____
Ben Molina _____
Everett Roy _____
Greg Smith _____

PASSED AND APPROVED on this the _____ day of _____, 2019.

ATTEST:

Rebecca Huerta
City Secretary

Joe McComb
Mayor