



City of Columbia City
A PROJECT OF THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
MS4



Fat Trapper

A LITTLE GREASE CAN
CAUSE **BIG** PROBLEMS



Grease in Lift Station

Proposal and Benefits:

We are purchasing Fat Trapper containers and providing them to Columbia City Municipal Utility (CCMU) Customers at no cost to them. This would include:

One Fat Trapper
Two Paper/Foil Liners

Here is our chance to give back to our Customers while at the same time improving the condition of our sewer system by providing them with an alternative to draining their grease into the sanitary sewer collection system.

- Homeowner Benefit: Sewer Laterals can clog faster than Sanitary Sewer lines due to their limited diameter—it takes less grease to block a smaller pipe.
- Reduced Operation and Maintenance costs due to less man-hours going towards sewer cleaning. An obvious effort to keep sewer rates at a reasonable level.
- Just this simple step can help reduce the long term operation and maintenance costs associated with sewer cleaning.
- Less grease in the system allows the Wastewater Treatment Plant to operate with better efficiency.
- Lift Station can operate at their design capacity with less grease lining the interior walls. In addition, the chance of the floats malfunctioning decrease with less grease in the system.
- Taking an affordable first step towards a goal set forth in our CSO-Long Term Control Plan.

How much money do we spend on getting grease out of our Sewer system, Lift Stations and Wastewater Treatment Plant?



Fine screen removes grease and trash

It costs approximately **\$3,000.00/day**

For a crew and associated equipment to clean grease from one of the 20 lift stations. Additional costs are incurred when lines become plugged and processing equipment is used at the Wastewater Treatment Plant for grease removal.

- Blockages in sewer lines begin when grease and solids collect on the interior top and sides of the pipe.
- The buildup increases as additional solids and grease are sent into the system, typically poured down the drains.



Clean Sewer Pipe



Grease can completely block sewer pipe

- The result of these blockages can lead to sewer overflows and the long term deterioration of the collection system, lift stations and treatment facilities as well as increase annual maintenance costs.

HOW CAN WE PREVENT THIS PROBLEM?



As you know, grease blockages in sewer pipes are a direct result of grease that is poured down the drain. The Fat Trapper is the answer to proper disposal of unwanted cooking grease and is already in use by various Waste Water Departments around the nation to help them **“Trap the Grease”**.



Fat Trapper

The Fat Trapper is the environmentally friendly, easy way to dispose of hot cooking grease. A plastic air-tight container collects used grease in a foil-lined bag. When bag is full, fold the top and toss into your garbage can. Each bag holds up to 34 ounces of liquid.

Dishwasher-safe plastic canister and cover keep odors inside. Moisture-proof construction holds liquids up to 200 degrees F. Great for use with your [indoor grilling machine](#) or [deep fryer](#).

Helps to reduce drain clogs that can develop when grease and oils are poured down a sink drain. And helps to protect pumps at municipal waste-water treatment plants.

Simply seal and drop in with your regular trash when full. Keep grease in the landfill and out of our sewer system.

Fat Trapper replacement bags compliments of a project of the Stormwater Management Department MS4 and the City of Columbia City Wastewater Treatment Plant.

