

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 23, THE SEWER USE
ORDINANCE REGARDING THE REMOVAL OF FAT, OIL, AND GREASE

WHEREAS it is well-documented that releases of fat, oil, and grease into the sewer system cause blockages of the sewer lines, increase the need for and cost associated with line maintenance, and impede sewage treatment at the wastewater plant;

WHEREAS because of recent changes in State law, the City of Durham faces greater penalties for blocked sewer lines and inadequate maintenance of such lines than it previously faced;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Durham hereby enacts the following:

SECTION I:

Chapter 23, Article IV, Sec. 23-98 of the Durham City Code is amended by deleting the section as it now reads and replacing it with the following amended language:

"Sec. 23-98. Fat, Oil, Grease and Sand Removal Systems.

(a). When Removal Systems are Required

On or before March 1, 2001, all users that prepare or process food shall install a removal system meeting guidelines approved by the Director that removes and collects fat, oil, and grease from wastewater. Such users include but are not limited to grocery stores, restaurants, bakeries, and companies and institutions with on-site cafeterias. In addition, other users that generate sand, oil and grease such as car washes, and automotive and machine shops shall install sand, oil, and grease removal systems when the Director notifies the user of the need for such system or when it is required by the Plumbing Code.

(b). Prohibited Discharges into the Fat, Oil and Grease Removal System.

The following shall not be discharged into the fat, oil, and grease removal system:

- 1) Waste that does not contain fat, oil, grease, and that otherwise does not require treatment;
- 2) Wastewater from dish washing machines or wastewater with temperature exceeding 150° F;
- 3) Ground residue from food waste grinders and garbage disposals;
- 4) Sanitary waste;
- 5) Emulsifiers, chemicals, and enzymes.

(c). Maintenance and Cleaning of System; Maintenance of Records

The removal system shall be cleaned on a monthly schedule. More frequent cleaning may be required if the user's discharge contains more than 250 mg/L of oil and grease. Less frequent cleaning is permitted if it can be demonstrated to the City that the proposed cleaning schedule will result in a discharge of fat, oil and grease that is consistently below 250 mg/L. Cleaning records showing the date and time of cleaning and person doing the cleaning shall be maintained on site for a period of three years.

(d). Collection of Fat, Oil, and Grease; Maintenance of Records

The user shall contract for the removal of the fat, oil, and grease collected from the removal system. The contract shall be available on site for inspection by the City. The user shall require the contractor to complete a form provided by the City indicating the ultimate disposition of the fat, oil, and grease collected -- e.g., the location of the landfill it is being taken to, if it is conveyed to such landfill, or whether the fat, oil, and grease are being reprocessed or rendered. The user shall also require the contractor to indicate on a form, which, if it is not the City's form, shall be acceptable to the City, each collection made from the user. Such form shall be maintained on site for a period of three years."

SECTION 2:

Any sections of the City Code that are in conflict with this amendment are hereby superceded.

SECTION 3

This amendment shall be effective on September 1, 2001