



Selecting A Grease Hauler

Introduction

Restaurant owners and operators are responsible for properly maintaining their outdoor underground grease interceptors. A reputable Grease Hauler can help with maintenance by recommending an appropriate cleaning schedule and notifying you of any mechanical problems with the grease interceptor. By carefully selecting a licensed Grease Hauler you should:

- Receive the service you paid for
- Ensure grease is properly managed
- Avoid illegal dumping and under bidding
- Reduce the chance of experiencing a sewer overflow
- Avoid sewer and stormwater fines or penalties

Services Should Include

Services provided by Grease Haulers may vary, but at a minimum, should include:

- Complete removal of grease layer, settled solids and wastewater. Do not accept skimming the top layer of grease only, as debris also collects at the bottom of the interceptor.
- A thorough cleaning, includes scraping the sides, lid and baffles to remove as much of the grease as possible and replacing the baffle and lid.
- Proper disposal of grease waste and water at an approved location.
- A contract which states the disposal will comply with all federal, state and local laws and regulations.
- A receipt with the date and volume removed with the signature of the pumper/hauler.

Tips

Ask the hauler/pumper to describe their pumping process. Compare costs of service, availability and scheduling. The cost of hauling is charged per gallon of waste and costs will vary, so check with different companies. Ask other restaurants for their opinions and experiences with Grease Haulers/Recyclers. When possible, witness/observe all activities performed by the Grease Hauler. If the Grease Hauler does not provide adequate answers to your questions, you may want to consider interviewing additional Grease Haulers. Enforcement actions against waste haulers for improperly disposing of waste do occur and many times restaurant owners pay for improper pumping and disposal. For a list of local Grease Haulers/Pumpers/Recyclers, refer to the Yellow Pages under "Grease Traps", "Grease Haulers", or "Septic Tanks and Systems".