



With Proceptor™ a Southern-Fried Seafood Restaurant No Longer Chokes Pumping Station with Grease

At a busy large seafood restaurant that specializes in southern-fried dishes, kitchen grease was moving faster than customers' forks.

But the restaurant's concrete grease interceptor couldn't handle the flow, causing kitchen grease to be discharged directly into the sanitary sewer system. The discharge created a blockage at a nearby municipal pumping station used to pump effluent to the local sewage treatment plant. The blockage clogged the station's pumps, reducing its ability transfer wastewater.

The restaurant's grease interceptor was severely corroded and needed to be replaced immediately. Pre-treatment authorities confirmed the interceptor failed to meet local effluent "FOG" (fats, oil and grease) standards. They quickly raised red flags, citing food grease and solids as the leading cause of sanitary sewer overflows.

When the sewers overflow, so does the bill – sanitary sewer overflows cost taxpayers billions of dollars every year and cause long-term damage to local infrastructure. The restaurant was facing fines, and even closure.

Proceptor to the rescue

The restaurant replaced its concrete grease interceptor with a Proceptor GMC 2000 fiberglass grease/solids interceptor, by Green Turtle. They chose Proceptor because it's effective, easy to maintain and guaranteed not to corrode. With a 30-year warranty, the Proceptor system was easily installed and a low-cost maintenance plan was designed.

Crunching the figures, the restaurant owners realized it's cheaper and easier to install Proceptor once, than replace concrete interceptors once corrosion takes hold. In addition, expensive concrete treatments do not prevent corrosion from grease and solids. As a Portland Cement Association study recently noted, "protective surface treatments are not infallible," when it comes to restaurant wastewater.

Proceptor's impact was instant. The restaurant no longer worries about causing costly municipal sewer backups. As Proceptor meets and exceeds government effluent requirements, the restaurant has ensured the region's environment is protected.

Follow-up: meeting effluent requirements

Three months after the Proceptor was installed, the lift station was again inspected and found to be completely free of any grease build-up. Samples taken at the outlet of the Proceptor showed the effluent FOG content was well within regulatory standards. Later sampling of the effluent taken at the lift station confirmed Proceptor's efficiency, with the FOG measurement of 44 mg/l = 44PPM, well below the EPA recommended level of 100 PPM.

After more than two years of trouble-free operation, the Proceptor remains corrosion-free and continues to perform optimally, providing long-term safety for the restaurant and the community.

Green Turtle

At Green Turtle, we understand our customers would rather focus on their business, not their wastewater. Environmental regulations are getting tougher and more businesses need treatment systems to remove oil, grease and solids from their wastewater. Without proper treatment, a business puts its time, money and reputation at risk.

Sources:

Portland Cement Association. Effects of Substances on Concrete: a Guide to Protective Treatments. R&D Serial No. 2154. Skokie: 2001.

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