



Metal Grease Traps

The environment inside an in-kitchen grease trap is extremely harsh and acidic – in fact, a metal grease trap is a highly prone to corrosion and eventual system breakdown.

To avoid rusting metal traps and all of the replacement costs, now is the time to switch to a more effective and long-lasting fiberglass Fat, Oil and Grease (FOG) interceptor. Many businesses are switching to Green Turtle's Proceptor and Retroceptor grease interceptors, which have a significantly longer useful service life.



Q: How effective is a metal in-kitchen grease trap?

Metal traps start deteriorating on day one and can quickly leak, corrode, or crack. This compromises their performance and leads to non-compliance with effluent regulations.

Q: What causes corrosion?

The by-products of the biological breakdown of FOG that occurs in your grease trap are strong acids. In fact, the pH inside a grease trap can be about the same as the pH inside your stomach. Add to this any salt water, bleach, cleaning solutions and other food-service materials and you create a very corrosive environment for metal, even stainless steel.

Q: What will corrosion do to my trap?

Corrosion first attacks all of the inside parts of your metal trap that the manufacturer has included to increase FOG removal performance such as baffles, plates, strainers, skimmers etc. Soon, gaskets and your sealing hardware corrodes and you are left with nothing to keep odors in the trap where they belong. Next, pitting occurs in the metal side walls and welded joints, eventually creating holes and leaks leaving you with a smelly, leaking trap.

Q: How long before it impacts my effluent?

As soon as the grease trap loses it's internal baffles, it no longer removes grease effectively. This is especially true for grease traps that have mechanical (moving) parts such as skimming wheels or pumps (Grease Recovery Devices). It's certified performance goes out the window.

Q: Can a metal grease trap attract pests?

Yes. The stench of rotting grease and solids in a metal trap attracts rodents, flies and other disease-carrying pests. This problem won't go away until you replace the unit.

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Q: Can a metal grease trap meet municipal regulations?

If they are sized properly, metal grease traps can meet municipal regulations. However, most metal grease traps are certified to a standard created by the Plumbing and Drainage Institute, a manufacturer's association. The PDI standard sets a very low bar for performance that has nothing in common with municipal regulations, so while the owner may think that they purchasing certified equipment that will meet municipal regulations, in fact they are most likely non-compliant from day one.

Q: So what's the in-kitchen alternative?

The best alternative is to purchase a properly sized grease interceptor made of a non-corroding material such as fiberglass.

Q: How much will I save?

The long-term costs of a fiberglass in-kitchen interceptor are much lower, due to its extended service life. Replacing corroded metal traps may cost \$3,000 or more in materials, labor and lost business. And this may occur three or more times over the life of a single fiberglass interceptor.

