



# TriCo FOG Manual

## How to Clean a Grease Trap

### Suggested Materials:

- Large trash can
- Several heavy duty trash bags
- Kitty litter or Floor/Oil Dry (available in auto parts store, Wal-Mart)
- Cloth or paper towels
- Strainer
- Tools: Allen wrench set, tape measure, screwdriver, pry bar, small bucket
- Scraper with handle
- Wire or flexible probe

### Getting Started...

1. Clean the grease trap before or after business hours to prevent unpleasant smells from bothering your customers.
2. Clear work area.
3. Line the trash can with garbage bags (double bag) and place enough kitty litter or floor/oil dry in the bottom of the bags to absorb the grease waste from the trap.
4. Pour some ice water in the sink connected to the grease trap to allow the grease to coagulate for easier cleaning.
5. Carefully use a pry bar to lift the lid.
6. Observe, determine, and record thickness of grease in inches.

### Let's Clean!

1. Remove baffles (note how parts are installed).
2. Clean and scrape baffles over trash can.
3. Remove the layer of grease by scooping and disposing of it in the lined trash can.
4. Scrape inside walls.
5. With a wire or flexible probe, clean inlet and outlet.
6. Using a strainer, scrape the bottom of the trap to remove all non-floatable food particles and debris.
7. Flush screens and baffles to ensure movement of water through units.
8. Properly install internal components and close lids.
9. Ensure all liquids in the lined trash can have been absorbed by kitty litter or floor/oil dry (add more if needed).
10. Tie the lined bag and place it in the solid waste receptacle.

### Never...

1. Never use hot water, degreasers or soap to clean your grease trap.
2. Never dispose of the grease waste in the storm sewer or the wastewater sewer.
3. Never use enzymes, bleach, or emulsifiers to clean the grease trap. These agents harm the natural bacteria that eat grease and oil in grease traps.
4. Never let the waste in the grease trap reach more than 25% of its capacity.

Figure 1. It is time to service when waste has reached 25% of grease trap capacity .

