FATS, OILS, AND GREASE (FOG) BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

PROHIBITIONS ON CHEMICALS, ENZYMES, OR BACTERIA IN GREASE CONTROL DEVICES

CHEMICALS

- Using chemicals to clean a GCD is a violation of local ordinance.
- Cleaners, solvents, caustics, or other chemicals cannot be used to dissolve accumulated grease from your GCD.
- These chemicals can interfere with the operation of the GCD and cause grease to leave the control device.
- The grease may deposit on the sewer pipes downstream from your business, obstructing flow in the pipes, requiring increased sewer maintenance, and may contribute to sewer overflows.

ENZYMES

- Using enzymes to clean a GCD is a violation of local ordinance.
- Whether produced synthetically, from plants, or from animals, enzymes cannot be used to dissolve grease from a GCD.
- Enzymes may temporarily alter the chemical form of the grease, allowing the grease to dissolve in the water.
- Enzyme altered grease may reform into solid matter downstream from your business, obstructing flow in the pipes, requiring increased sewer maintenance, and may contribute to sewer overflows.

BACTERIA

- Using bacteria to clean a GCD is a violation of local ordinance.
- Bacteria need a reliable environment to grow and are sensitive to change in temperature, pH, oil and grease loading, water flow changes, etc.
- Biological expertise and ongoing sampling are often needed for bacteria to be sustainable and to keep the system operational.
- Even if bacteria survive and flourish, their effectiveness in removing grease is limited.
- “Partially eaten” (i.e., not broken down completely) grease may still enter the sewer, reform into solid matter, obstruct pipes, and contribute to a sewer overflow.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:
WWW.SPOKANE COUNTY.ORG/FOG OR CALL US AT (509) 477-7579