

**askHRgreen.org | FOG Education Committee Meeting Summary**  
**Tuesday, February 18, 2020**  
**HRPDC - Chesapeake**

**Attendees:**

Jerry Hoddinott, CH  
 Lindsay Dierks, NO  
 Amanda Albright, HRSD  
 E'Laura Conrad, NN  
 John Newton, NN  
 Brent Werlein, VB  
 Regina Duncan, HA  
 Cathy Filipowski, CH  
 Jason Lee, CH

Daniel McCarty, VB  
 Reginald Spratley, SU  
 Kenneth Akes, GL  
 Ben Flova, Schier Products  
 Sue Reznak, Schier Products  
 Katie Cullipher, HRPDC  
 Rebekah Eastep, HRPDC  
 Cynthia Mulkey, HRPDC

The summary for the meeting is as follows:

**1. Meeting Summary**

The January meeting summary was reviewed. HRSD noted one change correcting the following statement:

- Grease interceptors made of ~~steel and~~ concrete are essentially septic tanks and there's no proof they work well at preventing FOG from entering the sanitary sewer system. In some cases, the concrete and steel traps can even contribute contaminants to the sanitary sewer system. the and approved. Update bullet three to remove steel from list of interceptors.

**ACTION:** HRPDC staff will update meeting summary as directed.

**2. askHRgreen.org Events**

3/7 - 3/8	Mid Atlantic Home & Outdoor Living Show	Virginia Beach
3/14	SEVA CAI Community Association Day	Virginia Beach
3/27 - 3/28	Great American Cleanup*	Hampton Roads
4/4 - 4/5	Daffodil Festival	Gloucester
4/11	Go Green Market	Yorktown
4/18	Virginia Living Museum Earth Day Festival	Newport News
4/21	TCC Cares Earth Day	Chesapeake
4/22	Poquoson Earth Day	Poquoson
4/25	Paradise Creek Earth & Arbor Day	Portsmouth
4/25	Spring Fling	Hampton
6/13	RiverFest*	
10/3	Virginia Beach Master Gardeners Fall Gardening Festival	Virginia Beach

*\*Volunteers needed to support attending this event.*

Great American Cleanup (coordinated by the Recycling & Beautification Committee) planned for March 27-28. Committee members are encouraged to coordinate departmental cleanups. HRSD plans to register a cleanup event.

Next event in need of volunteers will be RiverFest in Chesapeake at Elizabeth River Park.

**Action:** Committee members should reserve trailer early for any upcoming events.

### 3. Printing & Promotional Items

The Committee reviewed new creative for the No Grease Sign. The Committee discussed the type of sink pictured and the types of food included in the picture. HRPDC staff recommended removing the askHRgreen footer and replacing with a smaller HRFOG.com acknowledgement. The Committee would like to enlarge the graphic on the sign.

The following promotional items are on order:

- Toilet squeezers (5,000)
- No grease sign (2,500)
- Two-inch round what not to flush stickers (2,500)
- Down the drain brochures (5,000)
- magnet clips (1,500)
- Sludge Judges (for those who requested to participate)

What not to flush game - HRPDC staff showed the magnet board game developed by the Recycling & Beautification Committee and inspired by a What Not to Flush game created by Newport News. Players must sort magnets into items that can be flushed and those that cannot be flushed. The Committee reviewed a list of items to include as game pieces. The Committee recommended only ordering several sets that could be checked out as needed instead of a set for each locality. The Committee requested the following items to include as game pieces:

- Pee
- Poop
- Toilet paper
- Vomit
- Medication
- Diapers
- Paper towels
- Wipes (flushable/not flushable)
- Tampons/sanitary napkins
- Dental floss (maybe)
- Cotton swabs (maybe)
- Food (chicken/apple)
- Needles
- Kitty litter
- Toys
- Goldfish

The game headers will be: flush it and don't flush it.

**Action:** HRPDC staff will get pricing for producing magnet game and game artwork for Committee approval

### 4. Regional FOG Contacts

HRSD has proposed an update to the FOG Enforcement Response contact list. HRSD no longer performs surcharge inspections therefore HRSD inspectors will not be in a position to monitor or identify FOG issues at FSEs. Amanda Albright recommended updating the format of the form to serve instead as a quick reference guide for HRSD staff while in the field. The new guide will also include whether there is an ordinance or a FOG enforcement program.

**Action:** HRSD will distribute an updated FOG Enforcement Response contact list.

## 5. FOG Certification Site & Commercial Outreach

The Committee reviewed the updated FSE training presentation. The Committee discussed what size hydromechanical interceptors should be cleaned by the FSE and at what size professional cleaning should be required. The Committee decided to remove reference to the HGI size and refer people to local FOG program managers for cleaning schedule details. The Committee also recommended removing the seven-day cleaning schedule and again refer FSEs to contact local program managers. A picture of solidified grease from a self-cleaning service is still needed for the presentation.

The Committee discussed inviting Ken Loucks into further discussions regarding updating the regional model ordinance. HRPDC staff will discuss hosting a joint meeting with the Directors of Utilities and the FOG Education Committee, possibly involving Ken Loucks, to discuss potential updates to the model ordinance.

**Action:** The FSE training was updated as discussed.

## 6. FOG MOA

No updates from HRPDC but HRPDC staff will check in with Directors of Utilities. Newport News indicated that the city had adopted the MOA and would provide a signed copy to HRPDC staff.

**Action:** HRPDC staff will continue to work with Directors of Utilities to get FOG MOA approved in all localities.

## 7. Roundtable

- Norfolk – Discovered a HGI with side walls worn through to expose soil and pipes. Talking with VDH to recommend dump sinks in site plan review to address smoothie bars using hand sinks to wash blenders.
- Newport News – Interested in organizing another hauler training event.
- Gloucester – still getting program up and running, addressing older establishments with no interceptors installed, five of 25 restaurants inspected were in compliance, plans to visit all 45-50 restaurants in Gloucester.
- Suffolk – recent sewer main problems on route 58 tracked to the local fast food establishments.
- Hampton - confirmed volunteering for Mid Atlantic Home & Garden Show.
- Schier Products - Showed the pump out frequency calculation cheat sheet and core sample measurement cheat sheet in the Schier product guides, Virginia Beach inquired about parallel install v. series install of interceptors (series install is recommended by the manufacturer), identifying information about interceptors can be found on lid or top lip of interceptor.
- Virginia Beach - annual inspections started in January, software is helping with management, many haulers are submitting records electronically
- HRSD –

- Provided updates from working group on development of a sludge judge for HGIs. San Jose has Core Tacker prototype that has increased efficiency of inspections. Working group will meet again to further discuss the HGI sludge judge.
- Having trouble accessing and using Drop Box
- Provided example of Cleaning Guide from San Jose,
- Currently updating BMP for small communities to include new technical terms. There are currently no measurement required for HGI cleanings in small communities but Amanda requested feedback on requiring measurements and whether smaller establishments typically comply with collecting measurements.
- Chesapeake - Awaiting ordinance adoption, interested in learning about the FOG control measures in place at military installations (HRSD confirmed FOG control is part of the military permit requirements).

**Action:** HRPDC will work to identify a date for a hauler training workshop.

## 8. Staff Reports

Budget - FY20 budget was reviewed.

Digital Media Report – Provided for Committee review.

New creative for What Not to Flush campaign - The Committee reviewed two proposed scripts and selected the campaign creative. The Committee also reviewed two video approaches and selected the chalkboard concept. Radio will be updated to reflect the video concept.

**Action:** HRPDC staff will work with RCS to finalize new WNTF campaign creative.

**Next Meeting** - Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. at Newport News Public Works.

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