

## YELLOW GREASE

### Good to Know

- Yellow grease is essentially used cooking oil collected as a byproduct of deep frying foods.
- Restaurants may produce large amounts of yellow grease and collect the used oil in indoor and/or outdoor recycling containers.
- Grease trap waste is brown grease, not yellow grease, and does not go in the recycling container.
- Yellow grease is picked up by vendors who reuse or recycle the used cooking oil.
- Spills of yellow grease can happen during deposits or withdraws from the recycling container.
- Yellow grease spills and cleanup material (including wash water) shall never enter storm drains or ditches.

### Good to Do

- Position dumpsters and grease storage containers away from storm drain openings.
- Cover outdoor grease and oil recycling containers. Ensure lid fits securely.
- Only put used fryer oil in the yellow grease recycling container.
- Do not overfill yellow grease container. When container is full, call hauler for service.
- Keep exterior of container free of spilled grease and drips.
- If there is a spill, clean it up immediately. Use a spill kit that includes: absorbent pads and socks, kitty litter, Disposal bags, zip ties, and disposable gloves
- Do not attempt to clean up spills with water or degreasers.
- If you cannot absorb the yellow grease spill, call a professional cleanup and recovery company to collect and remove the grease and wash water to prevent it from entering the storm drain.
- Routinely perform visual inspections of storage containers for open lids, grease spills, or illegal dumping.
- Train kitchen staff routinely on best management practices.

### **YELLOW GREASE Spill Response**

1. Stop/contain the spill and prevent it from reaching storm drains with absorbent pads and socks
2. Asses the size of the spill. Is it small and able to be cleaned up with spill kit or will a cleaning company need to be called in?
3. If any grease makes it to the storm drain, call local FOG program manager or stormwater department. (ADD phone numbers to call for each municipality.)

### **YELLOW GREASE Clean up**

1. Apply absorbent material down on spill area
2. After allowing absorbent material to sit for a period of time; sweep carefully to avoid generation of dust.
3. Collect materials and residues and place in a waste container/bag.
4. Clean the spill area with water and capture the water if excess water is generated. DO NOT allow water to enter storm drain. Absorbent socks may be necessary to be used around the storm drains to prevent this from happening.
5. Put waste container/bag into dumpster.
6. If...
  - a. Self-Cleaning:
    - i. Send excess water collected through a drain that passes through a Grease Control Device.
  - b. Professional Cleaning:
    - i. Take excess water collected to be disposed of at HRSD.
    - ii. Inform HRSD that the load has material from a yellow grease spill. (HRSD may want to weigh in on how they will take in this material. Take it in like septic or pump station cleanings is my suggestion. It will be mostly water, but have other material with it.