

Grease Converters Fact Sheet

How does it work?

A grease converter works by using nature's own process of breaking down fats and oils using enzymes and bacteria. Inside the grease converter a special baffle causes the fats and oils to float to the surface of the water. This prevents them from getting to the outlet. During the day fats and oils continue to build up. Each night a daily dose of enzymes and bacteria is added. Over the next four or five hours the fats and oils are broken down leaving only small amounts. This daily cycle ensures your pipes and drains remain free from the build up of fats and oils which could cause expensive blockages.

Operation

It is very important that you operate your grease converter properly. You must add the enzyme/bacteria mixture last thing at night so it has the required four hours to work. The enzyme/bacteria mixture is available as a powder and a liquid. The powder must be dissolved in warm water and poured down the sink that drains into the grease trap. The liquid version can be added using an automatic dosing pump. This pump has a timer and will dose your converter at a set time each night. An automatic pump removes the risk of forgetting to dose the converter which can lead to expensive cleaning costs.

Maintenance

Grease converters only require servicing once a year. This servicing should be carried out by a certified and registered installer. They will open up your grease converter, clean inside and check all parts are working properly. When you first install your grease converter and after each time you carry out maintenance, a start up procedure must be carried out. This is to make sure the levels of bacteria and enzymes in the converter are high enough for it to work well.

You should **not** clean out a grease converter monthly like a passive grease trap. This would remove the bacteria living in your converter which break down the fats and oils.

Inspections

An Environmental Health Officer or a Trade Waste Officer will visit you to ensure you are operating and maintaining your grease converter properly. They will inspect the condition of your grease converter and may ask questions about how it is used. You must keep records of when it is dosed and any maintenance carried out. These must be kept at your premises to show the inspector when they ask.

