



Facts About

# FATS, OILS AND GREASE (FOG) PROGRAM FEE

## BACKGROUND

DC Water operations and capital improvements are covered primarily by ratepayers and bond issuances. Certain fees cover the costs of activities, services or equipment, such as permitting, connection or disconnection of service and late fees.

It is important to ensure these fees keep pace with their cost, and that the costs are borne by those who use the services, and not ratepayers in general. To identify the current costs, DC Water performs a Cost of Service study every few years. This study assesses the true cost of service and the level of fees in comparison to other regional partners.

In 2018, DC Water performed the latest **Miscellaneous Fees and Charges Cost of Service Study**, and worked with an outside consultant to help ensure that the proposed fees are reasonable and generally represent the cost of providing the service.



Beginning August 2019, DC Water will leverage a new monthly fee of \$13.70 per month from food-serving establishments (FSEs) to address clogged sewer lines, sewer backups, and infrastructure damage caused by the improper discharge of fats, oils, and grease (FOG) into the sewer system.

Only food-serving establishments licensed with the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs will be affected by this new fee. Their monthly fee is \$13.70 per month per FSE customer. There are approximately 4,200-4,900 FSEs in DC Water's customer base.

Food-serving establishments licensed with the DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs are required to have and maintain grease abatement traps; to ensure grease traps comply with DC Plumbing Code Requirements; to inspect and clean grease traps regularly; and to document cleaning and maintenance of their grease abatement systems.

DC Water crews assess and inspect FSE customers' grease abatement equipment, ensuring regulation compliance, and address FOG-related issues in the sewer system. Additionally, DC Water maintains the Third Party Portal, an online record system and smartphone application for FSEs to document their grease abatement inspections and cleanings.

The revenue generated by this fee will allow regular inspection of FSEs to reduce the risk of sewer clogs or breaks associated with FOG discharge. The fee will also support DC Water's record keeping system, and fund all relevant labor and inspection material costs.

For full details on the proposed fees, visit [www.dcwater.com/fees](http://www.dcwater.com/fees).