



## **AUTOMOTIVE FACILITIES**

The City of Mesa Water Resource Department currently provides educational information on pollution prevention and preventative maintenance to local automotive facilities to reduce the amount of Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) and solvents from reaching the sanitary sewer system. This information is also intended to assist local businesses in maintaining compliance with Mesa City Code.

As an active member of the Arizona Fats, Oils and Grease (AZFOG) Group ([www.azfog.org](http://www.azfog.org)), the City of Mesa joins local cities, sewer districts, Maricopa County, and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality in an effort to reduce the negative impact FOG has on the sewer system, the environment, and public health.

Grease Removal Devices (GRDs), commonly known as sand/oil interceptors, are required during the construction of most auto service/repair facilities. When a sand/oil interceptor becomes fouled, oils, solvents, grit, and debris can pass through the device and accumulate on pipe walls causing blockages and foul odors in the receiving sanitary sewer system. Where installed, the owner shall maintain all sand/oil interceptors to ensure continuously efficient operation at all times as required per City Code Title 8, Chapter 4, Sections 15(4) and (8) and 22(D).

## **RECOMMENDED METHOD OF CLEANING**

The recommended method of cleaning a sand/oil interceptor is to pump out the entire device, which includes removal of all the contents in the device, and removal of residual wastes after hosing down. During cleaning operations, a representative from the facility should be present to make sure all is completed properly. While the device is empty, an inspection should be conducted to verify that there are down-turned elbows on the inlet and outlet piping, and that they are in good condition.