

**III. Best Management Practices (BMPs) to  
Prevent Fats, Oil, and Grease from  
Entering Creeks and Streams Through the Storm Drain System**

<b>BMP</b>	<b>Reason For</b>	<b>Benefits to Food Service Establishment</b>
Cover outdoor grease and oil storage containers. Some local jurisdictions will have BMPs in place for stormwater also.	Uncovered grease and oil storage containers can collect rainwater. Since grease and oil float, the rainwater can cause an overflow onto the ground. Such an overflow will eventually reach the stormwater system and nearby streams.	The discharge of grease and oil to the storm drain system will degrade the water quality of receiving streams. In addition, it is a violation of water quality regulations and might also result in legal penalties or fines.
Locate grease dumpsters and storage containers away from storm drain catch basins.	The farther away from the catch basin, the more time someone has to clean up spills or drainage prior to entering the storm drain system. Be aware of oil and grease dripped on the ground while carrying waste to the dumpster, as well as oil and grease that may ooze from the dumpster.	The discharge of grease and oil to the storm drain system will degrade the water quality of receiving streams. In addition, it is a violation of water quality regulations and might also result in legal penalties or fines.
Use absorbent pads or other material in the storm drain catch basins if grease dumpsters and containers must be located nearby. Do not use free flowing absorbent materials such as kitty litter or sawdust.	Absorbent pads and other materials can serve as an effective barrier to grease and oil entering the storm drain system.	The discharge of grease and oil to the storm drain system will degrade the water quality of receiving streams. In addition, it is a violation of water quality regulations and might also result in legal penalties or fines.
Use absorbent pads or other material to clean up spilled material around outdoor equipment, containers or dumpsters. Free flowing absorbent materials such as kitty litter or sawdust may be used for minor "spot spills" as long as all material is swept up.	Absorbent pads or materials can help clean up grease and oil that is spilled on the ground and prevent it from flowing to the storm drain system.	The discharge of grease and oil to the storm drain system will degrade the water quality of receiving streams. In addition, it is a violation of water quality regulations and might also result in legal penalties or fines.
Routinely clean kitchen exhaust system filters.	If grease and oil escape through the kitchen exhaust system, it can accumulate on the roof of the establishment and eventually enter the storm drain system when it rains.	The discharge of grease and oil to the storm drain system will degrade the water quality of receiving streams. In addition, it is a violation of water quality regulations and might also result in legal penalties or fines.