

**LOCAL LAW NO. 9 OF 2010
COUNTY OF ROCKLAND
STATE OF NEW YORK**

(Introduced by: Hon. Ilan S. Schoenberger and Hon. Alden H. Wolfe)

Mr. Schoenberger offered the following Local Law, which was seconded by Mr. Wolfe and by roll call vote was adopted:

A local law making the following amendments to the Rockland County Sewer Law:

- A. Amending Section 345-164, which contains the schedule for units of use that forms the basis of the charge for the sewer rents to be paid by owners of real property; and
- B. Amending Section 345-105 to permit the addition of biological treatments to grease and oil interceptors.

Be it enacted by the legislature of the county of Rockland as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent.

- A. Section 345-164 of the Rockland County Sewer Law provides a schedule for units of use that forms the basis of the charge for the sewer rents to be paid by owners of real property. The current schedule creates subcategories, whereby a one-family dwelling with one kitchen is charged for one (1) unit of use, while a one-family dwelling with two kitchens is charged for two (2) units of use, even if only one kitchen is used at a time. This amendment makes Rockland County's schedule of units with respect to one-family dwellings identical to other municipalities in the Hudson Valley.
- B. Section 345-105 of the Rockland County Sewer Law currently prohibits the addition of biological or enzymatic treatments to grease and oil interceptors. However, research has shown that some biological treatments break down complex grease molecules into their simpler constituents, accelerating the degradation process that occurs naturally in our environment. This process not only frees up space in the interceptor, but over time it will work to clear drain lines downstream and restore the full pipe capacity of the plumbing system. Thus, the introduction of certain biological treatments into grease and oil interceptors in conjunction with regular cleaning out of the interceptors likely will contribute to the overall efficiency of the sewer system.

Section 2. Section 345-164 is hereby amended and reads as follows:

Classification of Property	Units of Use
One-family dwelling	1
Each separate apartment in a two-family, three-family or multiple dwelling	1
Garbage disposal units, each	1
Pool backwash from residential pool	1
Mobile home	1
Combination one-family home with a professional or business office that has an average of less than 3 occupants (see note 3)	1 1/2
Combination one-family home with a professional or business office that has 3 or more occupants or otherwise, in the opinion of the Executive Director, generates flow greater than the equivalent of 1/2 unit of use (see note 3)	2
Hotels or motels (no meals), each 3 rooms or part thereof	1
Hotels (American plan with meals), each 2 rooms (see note 2)	1
Rooming houses (no meals served on premises to roomers), for each 4 beds or part thereof (see note 1)	1
Residences for adults or youths; boardinghouses (majority of residents remain on premises, meals served), for each 3 beds or part or part thereof (see notes 1 and 2)	1
Group homes and hostels	
Business offices, for each 5 occupants or part thereof (see notes 3 and 4)	1
Medical offices (including dentists), for each 4 occupants or part thereof (see notes 3 and 4)	1
Stores and commercial establishments, for each 5 occupants or part thereof (see note 3)	1

Section 3. Section 345-105 of the Rockland County Sewer Law is hereby amended and reads as follows:

- A. Grease and oil interceptors shall be provided, when, in the opinion of the Executive Director, they are necessary for the proper handling of wastewater containing excessive amounts of grease, oils, flammable substances, or other harmful substances; except that such interceptors shall not be required for single private living quarters or single living units, whereas they shall be required for multiple dwelling units or other buildings which generate a sufficient quantity of grease to cause a buildup of grease in the interceptor downstream of its connection to the public sewer, and for buildings which have large kitchens, cafeterias or centralized dining facilities. All interceptors shall be of type and capacity approved by the Executive Director and shall be located where they will intercept sewage from the facilities generating these substances prior to being mixed with other sewage, and where they will be easily accessible for cleaning and inspection. Where it is determined by the Executive Director or Superintendent that a grease trap is required for a building with multiple kitchens or cooking areas and it is prohibitively expensive to separate the plumbing from those Areas to a common grease trap, individual grease traps or approved grease reclamation units or other measures to control the grease may be approved by the Superintendent or Executive Director. Exterior grease and oil interceptors at food service establishments shall be cleaned no less than every three months, while interior grease and oil interceptors at food service establishments shall be cleaned no less than every month. All grease and oil interceptors shall be inspected, cleaned, and repaired regularly as needed, by the owner, at his or her expense. The addition of Enzymes to the grease trap is not permitted. Records and receipts for cleaning including the date, quantity of waste removed, and the name and address of the contractor removing the waste shall be maintained and made available to District Personnel for inspection at their request for at least three years. If after being directed by the District to do so, interceptors are not constructed or maintained adequately, the District may do this work or arrange to have it done by others, then back charge the owner for the cost of this work. If the owner does not pay the charges for this work, the unpaid charges shall be levied against the property owner as a lien against the property and collected in accordance with Section 345-154 of this law. Grease removed from the interceptor shall not be discharged into the District's POTW without written permission from the Executive Director. The contractor shall keep records of the location of the final disposition of the grease removed from the interceptor. Those records shall also be made available for the District's inspection at their request for at least three years.
- B. Biological Treatments
1. A biological treatment may be added to a grease and oil interceptor.
 2. The use of a biological treatment shall not relieve the user of the obligation to regularly maintain the grease and oil interceptors pursuant to subdivision A. Failure to regularly maintain the grease and oil interceptors shall result in applicable sanctions despite the use of a biological treatment.

3. Any vendor selling, installing or maintaining a biological treatment in an interceptor shall be required to provide the user with a notice stating: "The exclusive use of biological additives as a grease degradation agent is not acceptable grease and oil interceptor maintenance practice. The use of such additives does not relieve the user of the obligation to regularly maintain the grease and oil interceptor in accordance with Section 345-105 of the Rockland County Sewer Law." Both the user and the vendor will sign a written statement (on a form developed by the Executive Director) confirming that the vendor has provided, and the user has received, such notice. The original signed statement shall be filed with the Sewer District. A new statement shall be filed upon the renewal of a service contract with an existing vendor or the initiation of a service contract with a new vendor.

Section 4. Effective date.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the New York state secretary of state with implementation of section 345-164 "Schedule for units of use" shall be implemented as of January 1, 2011.

The vote resulted as follows:

Ayes:	11	(Legislators Coker, Day, Grant, Hood, Jr. Jackson, Michel, Murphy, Schoenberger, Soskin, Wolfe, Cornell)
Nays:	03	(Legislators Bierker, Meyers, Sparaco)
Absent:	03	(Legislators Darden, Jobson, Moroney)