

## **INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM INSPECTIONS AND FEE POLICY**

Wastewater inspections are important to assure that materials disposed of in the sewers do not harm the collection system, the treatment process, the workers, or the environment. These inspections look for actual or potential sewer discharges which include spill prevention and clean up. Inspecting properties may lead to observation, measurement, sampling, inspection and copying of records, and testing with respect to the discharge to the wastewater treatment facility.

The Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP) fee policy began in 1990 with the passing of the Ordinance Number 322, "Sewer Use Rules and Regulations."

The program is a federally mandated program to control nondomestic users of the sewer system. The sewer department is a self-supporting, user funded entity; therefore, the costs are paid by those businesses using the sewer system. It has been determined that the IPP costs will be supported by only the businesses utilizing the Industrial Pretreatment Program. The general sewer user has been paying for this program since it began in 1988.

Many hours went into identifying which businesses produced nondomestic wastewater. There are manuals published by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and other agencies which provide guidance on which types of businesses are affected. The yellow pages in the telephone directory, newspaper ads, water bill records, and personal knowledge helped identify the individual businesses in the City of Claremont. Any business located on property served by the municipal sewer system (i.e. sewer anywhere on the lot) is considered an IPP sewer user.

The next step in producing a fee schedule was to distribute the costs according to the monitoring efforts required by each type of business. A simple fee schedule based on flow was not adequate. Greater monitoring efforts are spent on those business categories identified as needing pretreatment in order to comply with federal, state, and local sewer use regulations. These group I businesses consists of any nonresidential premise having a pretreatment device/facility such as a grease/oil/grit separator, pH control, filters, or chemical treatment. Group II are those businesses who are on the border line of not being in compliance and may be required to pretreat in the future.

Group III are those businesses that are retailers and wholesalers of solvents, degreasers, and pesticides that do not use or mix them. This Group III has a potential to violate, especially with an accidental spill. The final category is those businesses that have only domestic wastewater, such as a real estate or accounting office. This Group IV was not assessed an IPP fee since they are defined as a domestic user.

The quantity of wastewater was the final factor to consider in the fee structure. Larger wastewater producers have a greater potential towards noncompliance. These users are more likely to harm the wastewater treatment works and require greater monitoring efforts. Therefore, each group is further divided according to its average water use in gallons per day. The enclosed chart summarizes the fee structure.

<u>FLOW</u>	<u>FEE</u>		
<u>Gallons per day</u>	<u>Group I</u>	<u>Group II</u>	<u>Group III</u>
> 100,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$2,500
25,000 - 100,000	10,000	2,500	1,000
10,000 - 25,000	2,500	1,000	500
1,000 - 10,000	1,000	500	200
< 1,000	500	200	100

> means greater than  
 < means less than