

TRADE WASTE

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WHAT IS TRADE WASTE?

Trade waste is a water-borne waste (liquid) that is discharged from any business or premises to Council's sewerage system. This can be trade or factory waste, fats, oils, grease, solids and/or other impurities. Trade waste does not include storm water, unpolluted water, prohibited substances or domestic wastewater/sewage (liquid from hand basin, shower, bath or toilet).

WHO GENERATES TRADE WASTE?

Any person or business operation can generate trade waste e.g. food outlets, laundromats, service stations, and vehicle workshops. Please visit Council's website to view the Trade Waste Plan for a full list of businesses that are considered to typically generate trade waste.

WHAT IS A TRADE WASTE APPROVAL AND DO I NEED ONE?

A Trade Waste Approval is a legally binding document stating the requirements and conditions under which discharge to Council's sewerage system is allowed. It is an offence under the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* to discharge trade waste into the sewer without a Trade Waste Approval.

WHAT IS A PRE-TREATMENT SYSTEM?

A pre-treatment system is a device that is designed to prevent trade waste (fats, oils, greases and solids) from entering the sewer system, preventing blockages, spills and potential damage to the environment. Pre-treatment systems work by separating the fats, oils, grease and solids which allows the wastewater to travel through Council's sewerage system. A liquid waste carrier will be required (how often depends on how much trade waste is generated) to clean the system and the collected waste is then transferred to a commercial waste treatment facility.

WHY IS TRADE WASTE MANAGEMENT IMPORTANT?

It is a legal requirement to manage your trade waste correctly to protect the environment, the health and safety of the public, and community infrastructure.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A TRADE WASTE APPROVAL



1. CONTACT COUNCIL

Contact the Trade Waste Unit at Cairns Regional Council when starting a new business or taking over an existing one. A Trade Waste Officer will advise any trade waste requirements, if applicable.



2. ENGAGE A PLUMBER

If a pre-treatment system is required to be installed, all plumbing and drainage work associated with the installation must be carried out by a licensed plumber and drainer. The licensed plumber is required to lodge a Plumbing Application with Cairns Regional Council's Plumbing Unit, along with the necessary plans and fees before it can be installed.



3. INSPECTION

Once the Plumbing Application is completed, fees have been processed, and the installation of the pre-treatment system is complete, a plumbing inspector will carry out an inspection. A plumbing certificate will be issued for the completion of the work.



4. APPLICATION AND FEES

The business can then complete an application form for a Trade Waste Approval. The application form is required to be submitted with payment of the approval fee. Please note the approval fee must be paid before the Trade Waste Approval can be issued. A final inspection is conducted by a Trade Waste Officer to ensure the correct disposal of trade waste is occurring. The approval process can take up to 5 business days after the business has started trading. A renewal fee is required for each year of discharging, issued annually on the renewal date. (Supplying incomplete information can result in delays in processing the application.)

Should more than one trade waste generator exist on a property, a separate Trade Waste Approval form must be submitted for each generator, e.g. multiple tenants.

All work completed is to be in accordance with the *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2018* and the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*.

