

Why do I pay Trade Waste Charges?

Trade waste charges cover the cost of Westernport Water administering and monitoring trade waste consents and agreements. This includes;

- Monitoring and administering the maintenance of all food and oil interceptors to ensure they are pumped out at the required frequency
- Sending reminder letters, making phone calls if the maintenance is overdue
- Inspections of new food and oil interceptor installations
- Following up non compliance issues
- Investigating odour complaints
- Conducting pump out frequency reviews
- Ensuring all greasy or commercial food businesses have Trade Waste Consents and adequately sized food or oil interceptors or grease traps
- Investigating sewer blockages / spillages associated with fats and oils

Who is responsible for maintenance?

The owner is still responsible for the maintenance of the property drains from the sewer to the building and drains within the building including the unblocking of the grease trap or food and oil interceptors or other treatment apparatus. If a blockage occurs please contact your licensed plumber first.

Westernport Water is responsible for the sewer main and the connection point only, to the property.

Further Details on Trade Waste

Please contact Westernport Water's Trade Waste Officer, who can help you with your application or advice.



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WESTERNPORT
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TRADE WASTE No1
IMPORTANT TRADE
WASTE INFORMATION



COMMON QUESTIONS

What is Trade Waste?

Trade waste is any liquid waste (and substance contained in it) generated by any industry, business, trade or manufacturing process, other than domestic waste, acceptable for discharge to sewer. Domestic waste is water from toilets, sinks, showers, basins and washing machines within households discharging to sewer.

What do I do if I discharge trade waste?

You must fill out the Trade Waste Application Form if you think your business discharges trade waste. Our officers will decide what category of trade waste you discharge to sewer. Please contact the office for any help.

Category 1 – Deemed Trade Waste

Category 1 or Deemed trade waste under the definition is trade waste but is very similar to domestic waste. Typically discharged from chemist, florist, hairdresser, beautician, doctor, dentist, optician or small shop that does not serve hot food. These types of businesses do not need a formal consent but are issued a “Deemed Consent” for trade waste.

Category 2 – Greasy or Commercial Minor Trade Waste.

Category 2 is trade waste discharged to sewer that is likely to have grease or food from food preparation contained in the waste. Examples of these types of businesses are bakeries, take away food outlets, butchers, cafes, restaurants, supermarkets, caterers, ice cream outlets and delicatessens.

If your business is one of the above or similar, to meet your legal obligations under the Water Act 1989 you must have a Trade Waste Consent from Westernport Water.

A signed Trade Waste Consent outlines the conditions for discharging greasy or commercial waste into our sewerage system, including installing and maintaining an appropriate on-site treatment system such as a grease interceptor trap or similar oil or fat removal equipment as required and approved by Westernport Water.

Westernport Water provides a service to empty grease traps otherwise we require documented proof of the maintenance of the oil or fat removal equipment.

Category 3 - Major Trade Waste

Major Trade Waste dischargers will require a Trade Waste Agreement that will detail requirements for treatment of waste, quality of waste and quantity of waste discharged to the sewerage system. These agreements are for large or hazardous dischargers.

Why Operate a Trade Waste Program?

A trade waste program is an essential part of sewerage collection if the Corporation is to meet its ever increasing environmental responsibilities and treatment of the waste.

We need to know what is going into the system to prevent:

- Sewer blockages and spills of sewage to the environment
- Damage to the sewerage infrastructure
- Life threatening health hazards to sewer workers
- Disruption of sewerage treatment processes; and
- Threats to the environment.