

Fact Sheet

Trade Waste

Definition of trade waste: wastewater from business, trade or manufacturing premises, other than human waste or stormwater.

Trade Waste requirements are administered under the *Local Government Act 2009*, the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* and related Council policies.

All Trade Waste information, including Council's Trade Waste Guideline, fact sheets and forms, is available on Council's website at [Redland City Council Trade Waste](#).

Applying for approval to discharge waste

An application must be submitted to Council, and approval given, before a business may discharge trade waste from a property into sewer.

This allows Council to protect sewer infrastructure, treatment plants, staff and the environment and to ensure equitable charging.

Refer to the form Application to Discharge Trade Waste into Sewer on Council Trade Waste website.

Conditions of approval

The trade waste approval is issued to the property owner and states any conditions. Acceptance of waste is conditional on compliance with these conditions.

The property owner is the approval holder and is responsible for:

- applying for trade waste approvals;
- passing a copy of the approval to the occupier;
- ensuring compliance with conditions;
- payment of charges; and
- advising Council of the closure of the business.

Contact details of the business are also required, to assist Councils day-to-day management.

Other Obligations

In addition to the conditions of any approval notice, the owner or occupier must meet other obligations under the Acts, for example:

- A person must not discharge a prohibited substance, surface, water, soil, sand or rock into a service provider's infrastructure.

Discharge categories

Any trade waste discharge must comply with Council's Sewer Discharge Limits, as detailed in the Trade Waste Guideline. A trade waste business is classified as one of three risk categories.

Pre-treatment infrastructure

Some businesses require pre-treatment infrastructure to be installed to ensure compliance with the limits or to protect the sewerage infrastructure. This will be stated in the approval, along with any maintenance, cleaning, servicing, inspection or sampling requirements.

General pre-treatment requirements as applicable to industry and grease arrestor sizing tables are contained in the Trade Waste Guideline. A spreadsheet for performing the sizing calculations is available on request.

Inspections

From time-to-time Council officers may conduct inspections of trade waste properties and businesses to check compliance with conditions of approval.

Trade waste charging

Trade waste charges are included on the quarterly rates notice. There are two components to the trade waste charges, which are in addition to other wastewater charges.

The **Trade Waste Generator Charge** is a fixed annual charge for each generator to cover recurring administration and overhead costs associated with trade waste control. This charge is issued in advance at the start of each quarter.

The **Trade Waste Discharge Treatment Charge** is based on the volume and quality of wastewater and covers the cost of treating the water. This charge is issued in arrears based on recent meter readings.

The trade waste discharge volume is calculated from water consumption as read by the main water meter, less a toilet pedestal allowance, and with the application of discharge factors. In some instances, Council may require the installation of a discharge meter.

As the discharge volume is calculated using the property water consumption, the trade waste discharge

treatment charge relates to excess wastewater used by the entire property and may be applicable to businesses who contribute to high water consumption, not only to those businesses which trigger a requirement to be registered as a trade waste generator.

High trade waste charges

If the trade waste discharge treatment charge is unusually high, it is most likely because the water consumption measured by the main water meter has increased. If the cause of the high consumption is a concealed leak, the property owner may be eligible for a remission of trade waste charges.

A leak application form is available on the [Trade Waste website](#).

Trade Waste Enquiries

Please direct enquiries about trade waste to:

Post	PO Box 21, Cleveland Qld 4163
Email	rcc@redland.qld.gov.au
Phone:	07 3829 8999.

2025/2026 Financial Year	
Trade Waste Generator Charge	Charge
	\$562.68 per generator per year charged at \$140.67 per quarter
Trade Waste Discharge Treatment Charge	Charge
Pedestal Allowance (Pa)	75 kL / pedestal / annum
Category 1	
Standard volume charge (k)	\$3.1168 per kL
Category 2	
Base volume charge (a)	\$3.1168 per kL
Chemical Oxygen Demand (C.O.D.)	\$3.4377 per kL
Total Suspended Solids (T.S.S.)	\$0.6181 per kL
Total Oil and Grease (T.O.G.)	\$0.2060 per kL
Phosphorus	\$0.0946 per kL
Nitrogen	\$0.1413 per kL
Standard volume plus quality charge	\$7.6177 per kL
Category 3 Pollutant concentrations dependant on test results	
Constant 'd' for excess strength	Factor of 1