

Liquid Trade Waste (LTW) Guide for Other Businesses (Classification A & B)

What is Liquid Trade Waste (LTW)?

Simply, Liquid Trade Waste (LTW) is any liquid waste that goes into our sewerage system that is not of a domestic origin or quantity.

For example; there is going to be more waste from a restaurant than from your home kitchen.

Why does LTW matter?

If you think of the human body, when there is too much fat and salt in your diet, your arteries can get damaged and clog up. The same can happen to our sewerage system and treatment plants if too much oil, grease and other chemicals end up in there.

The sewerage system is there for everyone and if we don't look after it costs everyone in our community. Whether it is extra repair costs or environmental and health costs when it clogs up and overflows.

There are limits on what can go into our sewerage system. This is to protect the people working in and around our wastewater system. To protect rivers, waterways and oceans from harmful discharges, and protect our wastewater system and treatment plants from damage. This also helps our treatment plants produce good quality recycled water and biosolids.

LTW policies help also encourage waste minimisation and cleaner production and more water efficient practices.

What sort of businesses need LTW Approvals?

While the most common forms of businesses that need LTW approvals are food related ones. Other businesses need LTW approvals as well, including any industrial or other premises that generates liquid waste.

Not all discharges of waste are created equal.

Depending on the type of business you conduct, the types of pre-treatment equipment will vary.

If you are a fueling or washing facility you will need a separator to separate out any contaminants before they reach the sewerage system and treatment plants.

If you generate hot waste you will need a cooling pit to ensure that it cools to below 38 degrees. Businesses that have high volumes of waste at certain times may also need a holding pit, so that waste is released gradually, to avoid swamping the system.

Any businesses who have chemical or other residue in their waste may need a separation pit.

Every type of business is different, so when you make enquiries about LTW, Council will look at your individual business and advise you on what pre-treatment equipment you need.

Fair's Fair.

Currently, some business have LTW approvals and others don't. We want to make things fair for all businesses across our region.

We are working towards a uniform approach to Liquid Trade Waste across the whole of our council area.

We understand that there are time and cost issues with bringing everyone up to the standard that is required in the Guidelines, but Council will work with you to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes.

Contact:

Backflow Prevention and LTW Officer
1300 345 345

24/7 Customer service line 1300 345 345

PO Box 714 COOMA NSW 2630 | council@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au | www.snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au



Types of pre-treatment equipment:

Oil Separators:



Pits (Dilution & Separation):



These are for illustration purposes only. There are many options available in all these product categories. Talk to your plumber for technical and installation advice.

Fees and Charges:

There are application fees that are invoiced to the business owner upon your application being approved.

LTW is charged annually, based on the classification and risk profile of your business under the guidelines.

The annual fees are charged through the water billing system directly to the owner of the property.

All the fees and charges are in line with Council's 23/24 schedule of fees and charges below:

<https://www.snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au/Council/Fees-and-Charges>

The Legal Stuff:

Sorry, but it has to be said.

The sewerage system and treatment operation that is run by Council, is under the oversight of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE). We have guidelines from DPIE under which we have to operate. There is also legislation under s.68 of *The Local Government Act 1993* that covers what we do, as well as the *Protection of the Environment Act 1997* if pollution occurs.

So, this means the following:

- You need an approval to discharge Liquid Trade Waste into the sewerage system.
- That approval will come with conditions that you have to comply with.
- Council is obliged to inspect and make sure you are complying with your approval, you have the correct pre-treatment equipment and that it is maintained (e.g. your oil separator is clean and working).
- The owner of the premises is liable for all Liquid Trade waste charges levied by Council.
- If you don't do what is noted above, Council can take action to ensure you do. That can be:
 - Advising you what needs to be done and a timeframe for doing it.
 - Written warnings.
 - Penalty Infringement Notices (fines).
 - Orders under the *Local Government Act 1993*.
 - Court Action
 - Disconnection from the sewerage system.

Council will always work with businesses to help you understand and comply with what you need to do. If issues arise and there are genuine oversights, Council will work with you to get you back to where you need to be.

Enforcement will always be the last resort, but will be used to protect the environment, our sewerage system, the health and wellbeing of our community and the continued access of other customers of the sewerage system.