

# Trade waste

## A guide for business owners.



**All businesses have the potential to generate trade waste. Each individual business discharging trade waste to sewer requires approval from council to do so.**

### What is trade waste?

Trade waste is waterborne waste from business, trade or manufacturing premises, other than:

- waste that is a prohibited substance
- human waste; or
- stormwater.

### Who is responsible for trade waste?

The property owner is responsible for:

- all waste discharged to sewer from their property
- all trade waste fees and charges
- all trade waste plumbing and drainage requirements.

### Does your business generate trade waste?

Examples of businesses or activities that have the potential to generate trade waste are:

- workshops
- car washes
- tyre fitting
- bin wash areas
- laundromats
- beauty salons (e.g. hairdresser, nail technician, etc.)
- schools (e.g. tuckshop, science laboratories, etc.)
- photo development/x-ray
- restaurants
- food processing
- cafés
- bars
- hotels/motels
- dental surgeries
- laboratories, including soil testing
- swimming pool backwash.

### If the answer is YES, you may need a trade waste approval.



### When should you apply for an approval?

If you are commencing operation of a new business or operating an existing business that has undergone any change, to the following:

- property owner or trade waste generator (i.e. business owner, lessee, etc.)
- operating practises/processes
- method of trade waste disposal

then you need to make an application to council for approval to discharge trade waste to sewer.

All other existing businesses will be assessed during the course of council's trade waste inspection program.

Approval to discharge trade waste to sewer is not transferable. A new application for approval to discharge trade waste to sewer is required upon



A bank of individual 2,000 litre capacity grease arrestors and a typical oily water separator.

a change in ownership of the business or property.

Copies of council's trade waste management plan, trade waste policy and application for approval to discharge trade waste to sewer can be accessed via council's website [www.mackay.qld.gov.au](http://www.mackay.qld.gov.au), or by phoning the customer service centre on 1300 MACKAY (622 529).

### What is the approval process?

1. Submit your application for approval to discharge trade waste to sewer and all required supporting documentation to council (details of these requirements can be found on page 3 of the application form), together with payment of the relevant application fee.
2. Council will assess your application and contact you to arrange a site inspection to verify that all information supplied is correct.
3. A temporary approval to discharge trade waste to sewer will be issued. The temporary approval period will be sufficient to allow for temporary approval conditions to be satisfied and for the quality of your



effluent to be analysed. The quality of your effluent will determine the category of your trade waste approval and servicing requirements for any pre-treatment apparatus.

4. Formal approval to discharge trade waste to sewer will be issued, together with a tax invoice for the relevant annual approval fee. The approval is renewable each financial year thereafter.

**For further information contact council on 1300 MACKAY (622 529) or visit [www.mackay.qld.gov.au](http://www.mackay.qld.gov.au).**

