

Trade Waste price fact sheet

Effective 1 July 2023

Wastewater from commercial and industrial customers is stronger than standard residential wastewater and is known as 'trade waste'. Our Trade Waste Policy outlines requirements for separating certain waste (eg oil and grease) prior to discharge to our wastewater system, but even the residual waste adds load and operational cost to the treatment and recycling of this waste. Like all water utilities we charge to treat this waste on a user-pays basis.

This fact sheet details our application fees and our fees for ongoing management of commercial and industrial trade waste. The latter consist of management and waste quality fees. These fees are charged over and above our standard [commercial business and trade waste fees and charges](#).

More information on our management of trade waste is available in our [Trade Waste Policy](#).

Application fees

The initial application fee covers our review of the applicant's trade waste application, including the hydraulic drawings that specify the proposed on-site management of trade waste, preparation of the initial permit and the initial verification inspection. There is more work involved in assessing an industrial customer's application than for a commercial customer.

When additional inspections are required, these are charged at an additional rate.

Permit fees

Permit fees are calculated annually and charged daily. Permit fees cover the ongoing administration of trade waste permits and routine inspection of trade waste handling.

Quality charges

These charges are the mechanism we use to recover the cost of accepting and treating higher strength trade waste. Our treatment plants are designed to service multiple residential homes producing domestic wastewater. Most trade wastes have a higher concentration of substances. Therefore our wastewater usage charge doesn't recover the cost of treating these higher organic loads.

For particular commercial customers producing particularly high strength wastewater, we apply a rate we have calculated on the basis of the standard wastewater quality for those commercial uses.

For all other commercial customers, we apply a flat rate.

For industrial customers, we base trade waste charges on a series of charges for particular elements of the wastewater in the concentrations produced by the particular industry. This will require further assessment of the proposed application.

Where the property is separately metered, we will, if possible, apply a discharge factor to determine how much trade wastewater is discharged. Where the property is not separately metered, we assess how much is discharged based on a representative sample of similar businesses.

Where we need the volume of trade waste discharged to the wastewater system to be measured, we may require the customer to install a check meter to accurately measure how much water is supplied to a process that generates trade waste. We may charge more where customers have poorly maintained or inadequate pre-treatment equipment (eg a poorly designed or maintained grease trap).

Management of grease traps

If you have a grease trap, it is your responsibility to have it cleaned out at the frequency we set. Your grease trap waste transporter will charge you directly for:

- Cleaning your grease trap
- Transporting your grease trap waste to a suitable treatment facility
- Treating your grease trap waste at the treatment facility.

In Sydney, you must have a Sydney Water *Wastesafe* transporter perform this service.

Changes in pricing

Our prices are subject to change. If we change our prices, we will let you know as soon as practicable and in any event no later than our first bill for the services we supply from the date the change takes effect, or otherwise in accordance with any applicable laws and codes.

Trade waste pricing (GST free)

Service	Unit	Commercial	Industrial
Application Fees			
Initial application	ea	\$522.00	\$948.00
Re-assessment or re-inspection	hr	\$177.10	\$177.10
Permit Fees			
Annual Fee (incl inspections)	per annum	\$495.00	\$1,154.00
Re-inspection for repeated non-compliance	hr	\$177.10	\$177.10
Liquid waste (grease trap) charge			
Sydney only	per annum	\$49.00	N/A
Quality Charges			
Food/retail - low strength BOD*	kL	\$2.16	N/A
Food/retail - high strength BOD* (BOD>2000mg/L)	kL	\$2.80	N/A
Automotive	kL	\$0.39	N/A
Laundries (<2ML/year)	kL	\$0.55	N/A
Other commercial	per annum	\$115.00	N/A
If pre-treatment is not maintained for Food/retail	kL	\$14.34	\$68.78
BOD5	kg	N/A	\$0.85
Suspended solids	kg	N/A	\$0.38
Grease	kg	N/A	\$1.65
Nitrogen	kg	N/A	\$2.84
Phosphorous	kg	N/A	\$2.18
Total Dissolved Solids	kg	N/A	\$POA

*Food/retail – High strength BOD versus low strength BOD. BOD means biochemical oxygen demand and high strength BOD is typically considered to be greater than 2000mg/L.

Some examples of outlets deemed as high strength BOD versus low strength BOD are:

- High strength: Fried chicken BOD>2000mg/L, Asian style BBQ, ice cream parlours, bakeries making hot breads and cakes, craft breweries (less than 12kL/day)
- Low strength: hamburger/pizza restaurants, cafeterias serving hot meals. Take away, snack bar, food court restaurant, hospital or nursing home kitchen, function centres, Fried chicken BOD <2000mg/L, delicatessen with hot food (<12kL/d) wholesale food/caterer (<12kL/d), hotel/motel kitchen, retail butcher, fresh fish/chicken outlet (without cooking), smallgoods (<12kL/d), wholesale butcher (<12kL/d), bakeries making pies, sausage rolls only.