

MURRAY RIVER COUNCIL

LIQUID TRADE WASTE

INFORMATION FOR BUSINESSES



What is Liquid Trade Waste (LTW)?

Liquid trade waste means all liquid waste other than domestic waste from a hand wash basin, shower, bath or toilet.

Liquid trade waste discharges to the sewerage system, including liquid wastes from:-

- Business/commercial premises (eg. hairdresser, hotel, florist, restaurant, butcher, supermarket, dentist, mechanical workshop, kennel);
- Community/public premises (including school, hospital);
- Industrial premises;
- Trade activities (eg. mobile carpet cleaner);
- Any commercial activities carried out at residential premises.

"Premises" means any of the following:-

A building of any description or any part of it and the appurtenances to it, land, whether built on or not, a shed or other structure, a swimming pool, a ship or vessel of any description, a van, a tent and other non-permanent structures (container, marquee, etc).

Legislation

A person wishing to discharge liquid trade waste to the sewerage system must, under section 68 of the *Local Government Act* 1993, obtain prior approval from Council. This applies to both new and existing trade waste discharge. Discharging liquid trade waste without an approval is an offence under section 626 of the Act.

Why do we need to manage trade waste?

- Grease, oil, fat and solid material can cause blockages and overflows. Mains, pumping stations and the treatment plant can be adversely affected, which ultimately is a cost borne by the community;
- Protect the health and safety of the public and Council employees – odours and toxic substances;
- Protect the treatment plant from adverse loadings - strong waste can cause corrosion and kill the organisms required for effective sewerage treatment;
- Protect the environment – some substances affect animals, plants and waterways;
- Reduce unnecessary cost of treatment and future upgrades - which is reflected in sewer rates and charges.

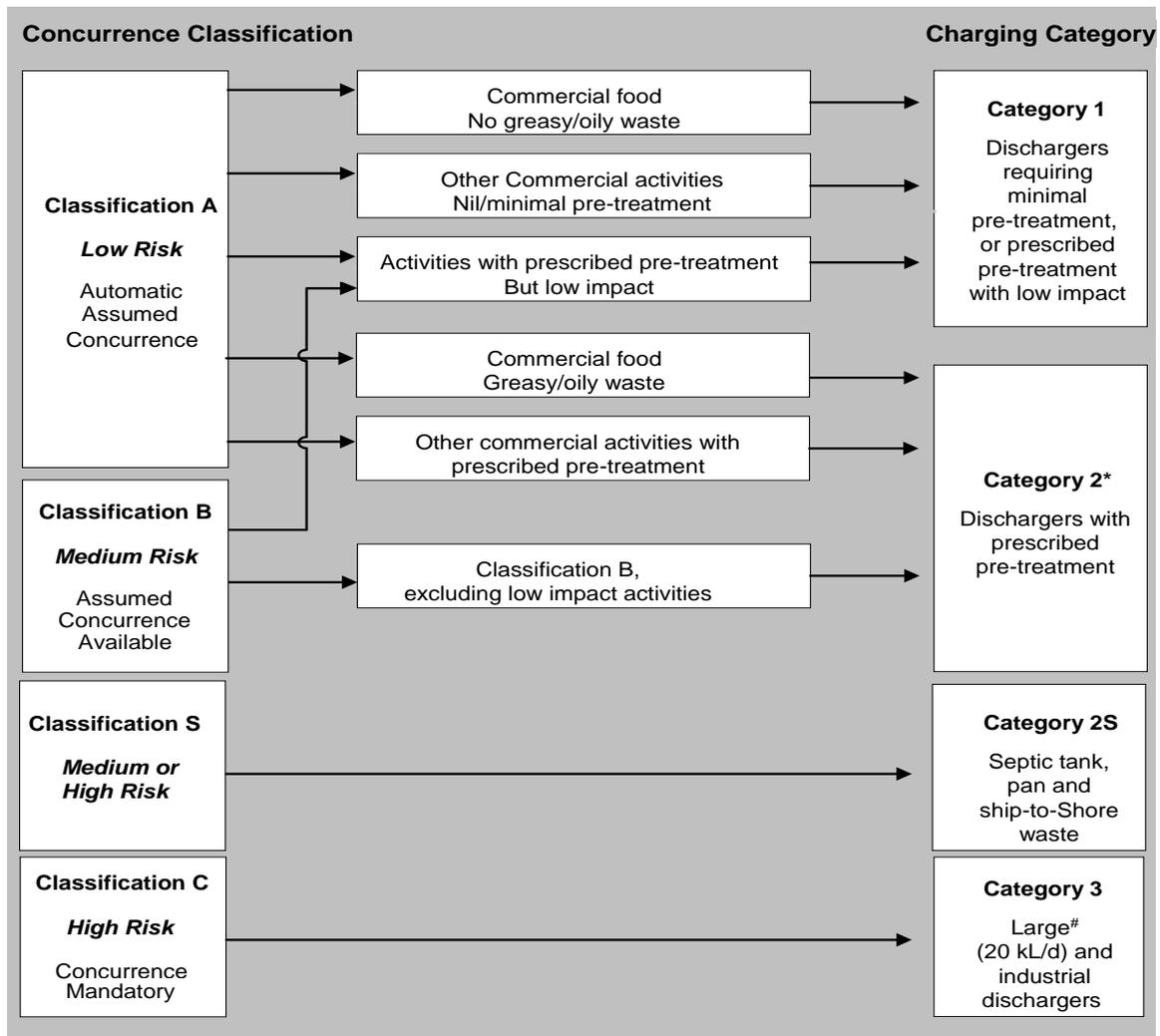
Business Responsibility

Any business discharging trade waste to sewer, either directly or indirectly (tankered) must have Council approval to do so.

Either the property owner or the tenant (with owner consent) can apply. A discharger must ensure that they consistently comply with all the conditions in Council's approval. Council can provide information on pre-treatment options. Any plumbing work required should be discussed with your plumber prior to submitting an application.

Classification of Trade Waste

Trade Waste is classified according to the risk it poses. Some very low risk dischargers are exempt from the need to obtain a trade waste approval, though they will still be classified as a "trade waste" business. They are "deemed to be approved" and are still required to install certain pre-treatment equipment.



Fees and Charges

The trade waste charging categories reflect the risk to the sewer system, type of activity conducted and volume of discharge. Annual charges apply and some dischargers have a usage charge applied based on measured water flow (through the water meter) with a discharge factor applied reflecting volume of trade waste from the specific activity conducted. Because some trade waste charges are based on water usage affected businesses are encouraged to assess water use and minimise any leakages or excess use.

The property owner is responsible for payment of fees and charges for water, sewer and trade waste. Where a property is leased the management of such fees and charges is a matter between the lessor and lessee.

Inspections and Monitoring

Council must carry out inspections at least once per year. Conditions of approval may require additional inspections or monitoring.

Further information is available from

Manager Water Services, Phillip Smith, on 1300 087 004.