

# FACT SHEET

## Trade Waste & Retail Food Premises



Trade wastewater from retail food businesses contains organic material that can cause odours and accelerated corrosion in our sewers. Solids can cause blockages in Council’s sewerage system, upset treatment processes and damage pumps. Oils and grease can cause blockages, corrosion and affect Council’s treatment processes.

Council’s requirements and conditions for accepting trade wastewater helps to:

- ✓ Protect people working in and around the wastewater system.
- ✓ Protect rivers, waterways and oceans from harmful discharges.
- ✓ Protect the wastewater system and treatment plants from damage.
- ✓ Encourage waste minimisation, cleaner production and water efficient practices.

The goal of trade waste control programs is to promote an appropriate service to industrial and commercial customers and protect the community, the environment, the sewerage system and the wastewater treatment process. This is achieved by regulating trade waste generators and ensuring that effective waste management practices and appropriate pollutant control technologies are used.

### Pollutants from retail food premises

Source	Possible Effects
<b>Solids</b> Food particles contained in washwater from plate leftovers and pot cleaning.	May block drainage within the food premises, may damage Council pumps, may cause blockages in sewer, and makes it more costly to treat wastewater.
<b>Oil and grease</b> Trade wastewater from washing up includes food particles, sauce, gravy, salad dressing and meat juice residue.	May block drainage within the food premises, may cause blockages in sewer and makes it more costly to treat wastewater.
<b>Biological and oxygen demand</b> Trade wastewater contains small particles of food, gravy and sauce residues, and sugars. This organic material is a readily accessible food source for microorganisms that are present in the sewer.	May cause odours and accelerated corrosion in Council sewers, and makes it more costly to treat wastewater.
<b>High temperature</b> High temperature dishwashers release wastewater at high temperatures.	Temperatures > 25°C cause accelerated corrosion in Council sewers. High temperature trade wastewater does not cool sufficiently to allow oil and grease to separate in the grease trap so greasy wastewater discharges from the grease trap.

Liquid trade waste enquires: [trade.waste@lismore.nsw.gov.au](mailto:trade.waste@lismore.nsw.gov.au)

For a complete list of commercial trade wastewater processes, read our *Liquid Trade Waste Policy and Liquid Trade Waste Management Plan*.