

TRADE WASTE APPLICATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act 2008

Overview	<p>The Queensland State Government has put in place legislation being the <i>Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act 2008</i> enabling Council to protect public health and safety, the environment, and Council sewerage infrastructure. This legislation allows Council to monitor and control waste being discharged to Council's sewerage infrastructure and to prosecute illegal discharges.</p> <p>As a result, Council has developed a Trade Waste Environmental Management Plan (TWEMP) and Policy, standardising the management of trade waste throughout the Charters Towers Region while allowing Council to meet its responsibility under the <i>Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act 200</i> and relevant environmental authorities.</p>
What is trade waste?	<p>Trade waste is any water-borne waste from business, trade or manufacturing premises. This does not include waste that is a prohibited substance, human waste or stormwater, under the <i>Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008</i>. Liquid wastes are produced by a range of industrial, commercial and domestic activities. The <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> prohibits the pollution of the environment through the discharge of these wastes.</p>
What is the purpose of Council's TWEMP?	<p>Council's TWEMP is in place to standardise the trade waste management practices across Charters Towers Regional Council's service area. It outlines what can and cannot enter the sewer system and treatment facilities to protect public health and safety, the environment and infrastructure. This is available for download from Council's website at www.charterstowers.qld.gov.au or by clicking here.</p>
What kind of businesses produce trade waste?	<p>Automotive businesses such as service stations, car detailers and mechanical workshops; food service businesses such as cafes, delis, coffee shops, hotels and motels, fast food outlets, bars and nightclubs, bakeries and butchers; service industry businesses such as beauticians and hairdressers, school science labs and art studios and vets; care facilities such as day care centres, hospitals, doctors surgeries, dentists, nursing homes and retirement villages; and commercial process business such as carwashes or the wash down of commercial bins.</p>
Do I need a trade waste permit?	<p>If you own or manage a business which produces trade waste, the property must have a Trade Waste Permit. This can be done by submitting a Trade Waste Application form. This is available for download from Council's website at www.charterstowers.qld.gov.au. All new and existing businesses that generate trade waste must hold a Trade Waste Permit relevant to the property.</p>
How much does a trade waste permit cost?	<p>All Trade Waste Applications are subject to an application fee, based on their Trade Waste Discharge Category. For a full list of these fees and charges, please refer to Council's Fees and Charges Schedule. This is available for download from Council's website at www.charterstowers.qld.gov.au or by clicking here.</p>
Why do I need a permit to discharge to the sewer	<p>All properties producing liquid trade waste are required to hold a Trade Waste Permit so that Council can manage and prepare for the waste accordingly. Uncontrolled discharge of liquid trade waste into the sewerage system can cause serious problems to infrastructure, our environment, as well as compromising the health and safety of the public and workers. Untreated liquid waste can harbour contaminants that cause damage to infrastructure and can become a public health risk.</p>
Who is responsible?	<p>The owner of the property is responsible for what occurs on their property. Once an application is approved, payment of the annual discharge fee is the responsibility of the property owner.</p>
Contacting Council	<p>For more information contact the Charters Towers Regional Council on (07) 4761 5300, in person at Council's Administration Centre at 12 Mosman Street, Charters Towers or email via mail@charterstowers.qld.gov.au.</p>

The information collected on this form will be used by the Charters Towers Regional Council for the purpose of processing and assessment of your application/request. Your personal details will not be disclosed for a purpose outside of Council protocol, except where required by legislation (including the *Right to Information Act 2009* and *Information Privacy Act 2009*). This information will be stored on Council's database. The information collected will be retained as required by the *Public Records Act 2002*.