



Pre-treatment

What is pre-treatment?

Pre-treatment is where you treat your wastewater in some way prior to discharging it as trade waste to the wastewater network, in order to meet your trade waste classification and/or consent conditions. It may also be a resource recovery method for your activities.

What types of pre-treatment are there?

Types of pre-treatment can include:

- pH correction
- Settlement to remove solids
- Grease trap/interceptor to reduce fats, oils and greases in your discharge
- Flow buffering to mix your wastewater streams, and/or provide balancing so you don't exceed your discharge flow rates or volumes
- Chemical treatment eg through a dissolved air flotation unit, to reduce contaminants being discharged
- Biological treatment to reduce the organic components being discharged

While pre-treatment will not form part of your consent conditions, Council does want to know what kind of pre-treatment you use/intend on using when you make your application. This is so Council can understand the impact your discharge may have on the wastewater system.

Some examples of pre-treatment for various activities are given in Table 4 below. This list is not intended to be exhaustive. Industry bodies may be able to help you with pre-treatment options that may suit your activity, or provide guidelines.

Type of business activity	Risk to the Wastewater system	Pre-treatment required
Food premises including: Retirement villages, nursing homes, hospitals, day-care facilities, educational facilities with cooking on site	<p>Fats, oils and greases (FOG) can cause issues and blockages in the wastewater network</p> <p>Macerated food waste combined with FOG can cause blockages</p> <p>Toxic cleaning products and wastes with a high nutrient load is more difficult and costly to treat at the WWTP</p> <p>Emerging contaminants in cleaning products pose a risk to the receiving environment and for Biosolids reuse</p> <p>Premises that operate more than 10 hours a day are likely to exceed the allowed discharge volumes of the Permitted category</p>	<p>Grease trap or interceptor</p> <p>Sink screens</p> <p>Food scraps into the bin or compost, not down the sink</p>

<p>Car/vehicle washes</p>	<p>Grit can cause blockages in the wastewater system</p> <p>Hydrocarbons are a hazard, and are toxic to the bacteria at the WWTP</p> <p>Emerging contaminants in cleaning products pose a risk to the receiving environment and for Biosolids reuse</p> <p>Solvents and used oil must be collected and disposed of via approved routes</p>	<p>Oil and/or grit interceptor</p>
<p>Dentists</p>	<p>Amalgam from fillings contaminate biosolids, and should be recycled</p>	<p>Amalgam trap</p>
<p>Medical facilities including: Nursing homes, hospitals, veterinary surgeons, etc</p>	<p>Toxic waste is more difficult and costly to treat at the WWTP, and may impact on treatment performance</p> <p>Items such as dressings, bandages and plasters can block the sewer and wastewater pumps</p> <p>Emerging contaminants in cleaning products pose a risk to the receiving environment and for Biosolids reuse</p>	<p>Sink screens</p> <p>Plaster arrestors</p> <p>Toxic waste is separated and disposed of through an approved facility</p> <p>Refer to Schedule A and Schedule B regarding pharmaceuticals</p>
<p>Hairdressers</p>	<p>Hair can tangle around wastewater pumps and the screens at the WWTP, causing blockages leading to overflows from the wastewater system</p> <p>Emerging contaminants in products pose a risk to the receiving environment and for Biosolids reuse</p>	<p>Sink screens</p>
<p>Automotive/mechanical</p>	<p>Hydrocarbons are a hazard, and are toxic to the bacteria at the WWTP</p> <p>Solvents and used oil must be collected and disposed of via approved routes</p>	<p>Oil interceptors</p>
<p>Laundries including facilities which have laundries</p>	<p>Emerging contaminants in detergents pose a risk to the receiving environment and for Biosolids reuse</p> <p>Phosphorus-containing detergents require more treatment at the WWTP to remove the phosphorus from the wastewater</p>	<p>Lint screens</p> <p>Cooling pit if >40°C (see Schedule A)</p>