



A Guide to

Trade Waste in the Motor Vehicle Industry

Waipa District Council manages the wastewater system so that liquid waste from residential, commercial and industrial premises can be safely transported, treated and disposed of.

Trade Waste is defined as any liquid that is discharged to the wastewater system from commercial, industrial, manufacturing or trade premises resulting from any processes or operations. This may include Condensing or Cooling Waters; Stormwater which cannot be practically separated, or Domestic Sewage.

- Engine reconditioners
- Mechanical workshops
- Panel beaters
- Radiator repairers
- Service stations
- Spray painters
- Vehicle, hire equipment and machinery washes

Managing oily Trade Waste

Motor vehicle businesses within the Waipa District produce harmful liquid waste pollutants such as, petroleum hydrocarbons, flammable substances, metals from engine parts and batteries, chlorinated solvents, phenols, oils and solids. These substances are produced every day simply by carrying out normal operations. If that waste is discharged directly into our wastewater system it can; affect the health of people working in the wastewater system, damage the pipes and the wastewater treatment plants, potentially cause explosions and could result in pollution of our rivers.

Although the amount of waste from any single motor vehicle business may be relatively small, the effect of the total amount of waste being discharged from the motor vehicle industry is very significant.

Who is affected?

All businesses that handle vehicles, machinery or mechanical equipment and discharge to the wastewater system, will need to apply to the Waipa District Council for a Trade Waste Consent.

Businesses that may be affected include:

- Auto dismantlers

Pre-treatment

The main types of pre-treatment used in dealing with oily waste are; oil and grit interceptors, dry basket arrestors, diversion valves, bunding and roofing of wash areas. Wastewater from toilets, showers and other processes that generate Trade Waste must not be directed through the pre-treatment equipment.

All pre-treatment equipment must be approved by the Waipa District Council prior to being installed and must also be installed in accordance with the standards set out in the New Zealand Building Code.

Maintaining your pre-treatment

All pre-treatment equipment requires maintenance to ensure it operates effectively and efficiently. It is important to know what type of pre-treatment you have, where it is located, how it operates and what maintenance is required. All pre-treatment should be operated and maintained according to the manufacturers instructions. Your Trade Waste Consent will contain the minimum requirements specific to your premises and type of pre-treatment.

Only liquid waste contractors compliant with the Liquid and Hazardous Waste Code of Practice and approved by the Waipa District Council may clean out your pre-treatment equipment.

Dealing with used chemicals, oils, fuels, fluids & batteries

All used chemicals, oils, fuels or fluids generated must be collected and stored in containers or drums for collection by Waipa District Council approved recyclers. Batteries should be stored in banded areas and removed offsite for recycling as soon as possible.

Oil and grit interceptors cannot process large amounts of liquids and chemicals such as oil, chemicals, petrol, kerosene, radiator fluid, brake fluids, non quick-break degreasers and solvents.

Do not pour any of these wastes down the drain.

Trade Waste tips that can save you money

Save Water:

- Use dry or waterless cleaning methods such as wiping or sweeping up spills.
- Turn off taps if they are not being used.

Recycle:

- Collect used chemicals, oil, fuels, fluids and batteries so that they can be recycled.
- Never pour oils, brake fluid, radiator fluid or fuels down any sinks or drains. It is an offence to pour any waste into a stormwater drain and you may be liable to a fine.

Use appropriate cleaning products:

- Traditional cleaning compounds such as solvent based degreasers create an oil-water suspension that lasts for several hours, allowing oil to pass through the pre-treatment equipment and into the wastewater system. Ask your cleaning product supplier to specify a cleaner that allows the oil and water to separate soon after use. These products are known as 'quick break' detergents.
- Pre-treated wastewater should be clear. Milky wastewater from your pre-treatment equipment

indicates the presence of emulsified oil. If this occurs you may require a better quick break detergent.

- When using a cleaning product only use the specified amount. Using more only wastes product and increases operating costs.

Need to know more?

For more detailed information regarding Trade Waste contact the Waipa District Council Trade Waste Officer at the Te Awamutu Office.

