

Liquid Trade Waste

Laboratory

Definition

Liquid trade waste (LTW) is any discharge to a sewerage system other than domestic waste from a hand wash basin, shower, bath or toilet.

Central Coast Council is referred to as Council.

Introduction

This Fact Sheet is provided to assist you to treat and dispose of liquid trade waste in an efficient and approved manner.

For further information, please contact Council's Trade Waste Section on 4306 7900.

For LTW application forms, refer to www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au.

Activities

This Fact Sheet applies to laboratory activities conducted within stand-alone analytical, pathology and secondary school laboratories. This information does not apply to laboratories that have an X-ray facility attached (such as radiology) or those attached to a training facility. Further, this information does not include the types of laboratories listed in the following table.

Laboratory	
Agriculture research laboratory	Pharmaceutical laboratory
Animal health (parasitology) laboratory	Photographic laboratory
Autopsy laboratory	Police crime scene unit laboratory
Chemical (pesticides) laboratory	Nuclear medicine and radioisotope laboratory
Dental laboratory	Tertiary institution laboratory
Film (movies) laboratory	Veterinary research laboratory
Nuclear medicine laboratory	X-ray laboratory

What pre-treatment is required?

- Make sure you have installed a balancing pit or tank with a minimum capacity of 600L to treat the liquid trade waste discharge.
- Sterilise infectious wastes by autoclaving before discharging into the sewerage system.

pH

- Test the pH of the liquid trade waste regularly to maintain it within the range of 7.0 to 9.0 at all times.
- Make sure you adjust the pH as necessary before discharging to the sewerage system.



Chemical and solution handling

Do not discharge concentrated acids, caustic and other corrosive chemicals, solvents and other concentrated chemical solutions to the sewerage system. Arrange for these wastes to be collected and removed by an EPA-licensed contractor.

You may discharge the rinse water used for the washing up of equipment.

Housekeeping

After the discharge of liquid trade waste from laboratory sinks, make sure you flush with liberal quantities of water immediately.

Clean up spills and leaks of laboratory chemicals using dry cleaning methods such as chemical absorbents.

Disposal of solid waste

Do not discharge or dispose of solid wastes such as hypodermic needles, syringes, instruments, utensils, swabs, dressings, bandages, paper and plastic items of a disposable nature, or human tissues to the sewerage system. Dispose of such wastes in accordance with the NSW Health Clinical and Related Waste Management for Health Services, 2017, which provides advice on the safe handling, storage and disposal of clinical, cytotoxic, pharmaceutical and chemical wastes.

