

ANIMAL SHELTER / PET SHOP / WASH ACTIVITIES

Background

As detailed in the Icon Water publication *STD-SPE-P-003 Trade Waste Approval and Compliance Requirements*, activities that generate liquid trade waste for discharge into Icon Water's Sewerage Network **must** comply with specific requirements.

Any capitalised terms used and not defined in this Guide Note have the same meaning as in Icon Water publication *STD-SPE-P-003 Trade Waste Approval and Compliance Requirements*.

Purpose

The purpose of this Guide Note is to provide detail on the specific requirements for liquid trade waste generated from animal shelter / pet shop / grooming / other wash activities, so that compliant waste can be approved for ongoing acceptance into Icon Water's Sewerage Network.

Compliance

The Trade Waste Customer remains responsible and liable for ensuring compliance with this Guide Note even if the occupier of the premises is another party or entity.

In the event that the Trade Waste Customer or the occupier of the premises fails to comply with this Guide Note, Icon Water may take any and all corrective actions as specified in the Icon Water publication *STD-SPE-P-003 Trade Waste Approval and Compliance Requirements* and the Liquid Trade Waste Negotiated Contract.

Guidance

The following table details facilities and requirements for Category A discharges relevant to this Guide Note.

Table 1. Facility types and Category A requirement

Facility Type	Category A Requirements
Pounds	(i) the discharge volume does not exceed 5 kL/day, and (ii) the required pre-treatment equipment is installed in conjunction with good housekeeping practices, as well as (iii) excluded substances are not discharged. (iv) no more than four Category A discharges from a single premises or complex (excluding those listed and complying with the requirements in Table A.1 of <i>STD-SPE-P-003</i>).
Boarding Kennels	
Racecourses and stables	
Saleyards	
Retail pet shops	
Dog washing facilities at a carwash	
Dog/Cat grooming services (fixed or mobile)	

Requirements for facilities such as veterinary surgeries or animal hospitals are detailed in the Icon Water publication *TW-GN-128 – Veterinary Surgery*.

Facilities within a zoo, research or quarantine facility are subject to additional and specific requirements. Refer to *TW-GN-301- Liquid Trade Waste Category C – High Risk*.

Excluded substances/equipment/processes

The following substances are prohibited from entering the Icon Water Sewerage Network:

- Organochlorine and organophosphate pesticides. Wash-water containing such substances must not be discharged into the Sewerage Network. If such products are used, the applicant needs to provide a management plan outlining the storage arrangement and the measures taken to prevent spills, leaks and wastes arising from the use of such products
- Solid waste (e.g. animal droppings, cat litter, animal food etc.)
- Disposable products including wet wipes, cleaning wipes, colostomy bags, cat litter and other products that do not comply with AS/NZ 5328
- Animal waste from disposal units or grinders
- Wastewater arising from liquefaction and/or pulverisation of solid waste by physical or chemical processes. Examples include but are not limited to: Macerated waste, matter from food-waste disposal units and alkaline hydrolysis waste
- Biohazardous waste and unused pharmaceuticals must be disposed of in accordance with Access Canberra (ACT Health) regulations
- Wastewater containing chemicals or substances above our acceptance criteria (or not listed) in Icon Water publication *STD-SPE-P-003* Trade Waste Approval and Compliance Requirements.

Pre-treatment requirements

The following pre-treatment equipment is required to be installed where the wastewater is discharged to the Sewerage Network:

Table 1. Pre-treatment devices.

Pre-treatment Device	Details
Screens/hair traps (In-sink basket arrestors)	Must be installed in all sinks in animal wash areas where animals are kept/washed (or in a centralised point) prior to discharge to the Sewerage Network. Note: This requirement also applies to mobile units (e.g. mobile pet grooming vans).
Dry basket arrestor (In-floor)	Must be installed in all floor waste outlets in the animal wash area(s), and where the animals are kept, if connected to the Sewerage Network.
Settling pit¹	Must be installed if animals furl in a sand pit, such as horses in stables and at racecourses. In addition at any sites that require solids settlement prior to discharge to the Sewerage Network. It must be sized according to the influent flowrate and have a minimum capacity to provide one-hour of detention time.

¹The discharger must provide supporting information in regard to sizing of equipment and the manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedule.

²All pre-treatment devices must be maintained and cleaned as per a set schedule.

NOTE: If an animal wash facility is located at a carwash facility, wastewater from the animal wash facility must bypass the pre-treatment equipment for the carwash facility.

Settling pit

Installation requirements

Location: Installation of the pre-treatment device(s) must allow safe access for maintenance and inspection. Devices must be installed to meet Australian Standards with respect to, but not limited to, working at heights and confined spaces. The installed location must be accessible by maintenance vehicles to allow safe access to thoroughly clean its interior.

Sampling: An inspection point suitable for taking representative samples shall be provided immediately prior to the point where the liquid trade waste leaves the premises and enters the Sewerage Network and/or mixes with domestic sewage from the premises.

Settling pit: Install the appropriately sized pit to ensure correct working capacity. That is, the pit will need to be larger than the stated working capacity (the pit capacity is to be measured between the inlet wall and weir wall). For correct operation, the pit must be installed level for the wastewater to flow evenly across the weir. The pit should have a flow baffle to slow the flow down and direct it towards the bottom and a second baffle or mechanism to retain floatables. They must be constructed and installed to allow ease of inspection and cleaning. The grates should be easily removed and the pit wide enough so that accumulated solids can be easily removed. The pit must have a high-level alarm switch fitted (audible and visible), with remote alarm signal to an area on the site that is able to be monitored.

Pump: If required, use the correct pump to manage the wastewater generated. It must have a manual start switch with a low-level stop switch.

Vertical clearance: Ensure there is adequate vertical clearance above the pre-treatment system to allow safe inspection, cleaning and replacement of the plate pack(s).

Compliance plate: Check that there is a compliance plate with a compliance number clearly visible on the system. This ensures the equipment is authorised for the full range of conditions and wastewater on-site.

Bunding: Ensure the liquid trade waste generating process area and pre-treatment is within a bund. A bund of at least 150 mm high or speed bump hump 75 mm high around the area is required if it is outside to prevent surface stormwater flow. The overall surface water flow across the site has to be considered and the height of the bund/speed bump may have to be increased to prevent stormwater flow.

Roofing: The liquid trade waste generating process area and pre-treatment must be roofed to prevent ingress of rainwater. A ten degree (from the vertical) overhang is the minimum acceptable roof cover to ensure rainwater does not get in.

Backflow-prevention: A cold-water tap must be installed within 5 metres of the device(s). A backflow-prevention device must be installed on the inlet side of the tap. The backflow device(s) must be tested every 12 months by a licensed plumber who is accredited in backflow-prevention to ensure it is operating correctly and to identify if the valve requires servicing/repair. After testing a valve, the Licensed plumber must lodge a test certificate with Access Canberra, the plumbing regulator.

Reflux valve: Install a reflux valve if the difference in levels between the overflow level of the lowest fixtures and the top of the relief gully is less than 150 mm.

Note: The pre-treatment installation's pipe work and the surrounding area must be arranged to ensure that any spillage or overflow of sludge, separated oil or untreated oily waste is prevented from bypassing the separator and entering the sewerage network.

Commissioning requirements

Each pre-treatment device/system* shall be commissioned by a person or company accredited for this purpose by the manufacturer or supplier of the equipment. As part of the commissioning, the following documents shall be provided:

- a certificate of commissioning to be forwarded to Icon Water
- a copy of the work as executed sanitary drainage plan showing the completed installation of pre-treatment devices/system, and
- a schedule of recommended cleaning and maintenance to be given to the owner and kept at the premises for reference and available for inspection by Icon Water on request. The schedule shall provide:

- a description of activities to be undertaken (e.g. for coalescing plate separators the removal and cleaning of plates, sludge withdrawal from hopper, etc.)
- minimum frequencies for these activities, and
- any special observations to be made which would affect the frequency of this maintenance schedule or which may indicate conditions when qualified service personnel may need to be engaged.

*NOTE: Not relevant for screens / in-sink basket arrestors, floor dry basket arrestors.

Maintenance requirements

The pre-treatment device(s) must be maintained as per the schedules provided during the commissioning of the system. The maintenance regime must include all aspects as indicated above in *Commissioning requirements*.

Chemical handling and storage

Safety data sheets for disinfectants, pesticides and any chemicals stored on site in bulk, and which may be present in the wastewater, must be provided to Icon Water as an attachment with the Icon Water liquid trade waste application form.

Chemicals should be stored in an area where any spillage cannot drain to Icon Water's Sewerage Network or stormwater system. Concentrated chemicals e.g. acids, caustic and other corrosive chemicals must not be discharged to Icon Water's Sewerage Network. Chemical solutions containing small quantities of these substances should be neutralised before discharging to Icon Water's Sewerage Network.

Housekeeping practices

Areas where animals are kept must be dry-swept before hosing down the floors.

Compliance management

Record-keeping

Trade Waste Customers must:

- keep documentation relating to inspection and servicing of all pre-treatment systems at the premises for at least two (2) years and make this documentation available to Icon Water upon request
- maintain appropriate records to demonstrate compliance with the Liquid Trade Waste Negotiated Contract at all times.

Site inspection

Icon Water's personnel may attend the premises to conduct site inspections to verify compliance with the Liquid Trade Waste Negotiated Customer Contract. The indicative frequency of site inspections is detailed in Section 9.12 of Icon Water publication *STD-SPE-P-003 Trade Waste Approval and Compliance Requirements*.

References

- *STD-SPE-P-003 Trade Waste Approval and Compliance Requirements*
- *TW-GN-128 – Veterinary Surgery*
- *TW-GN-301- Liquid Trade Waste Category C – High Risk*

Issue	Date	Reason for Revision	By
A	10/06/2025	Issue for public consultation	S. Chappell
B	31/10/2025	Issue for use	S. Chappell