

LAUNDRY / LAUNDROMAT

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 laundries and laundromats, so that compliant waste can be approved for ongoing acceptance into the Icon Water 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

This Guide Note applies to laundry/laundromat activities that generate a wastewater discharge volume of no more than 5 kL/day.

A laundry may have a dry-cleaning section at the same premises. The waste from a dry-cleaning area is excluded from entering Icon Water's Sewerage Network. Refer to *TW-GN-108 – Dry-Cleaning* for specific requirements for dry-cleaning discharges.

Excluded substances/equipment/processes

The following are prohibited from discharging to the Icon Water Sewerage Network:

- Dry-cleaning solvents (including Perc)
- Wastewater contaminated with solvents (e.g., separator water) if on-site pre-treatment is not provided
- Used dry-cleaning solvents
- Disposable products including wet wipes, cleaning wipes and other products that do not comply with AS/NZ 5328
- Wastewater containing chemicals or substances above our acceptance criteria (or not listed) in Icon Water's publication *STD-SPE-P-003 Trade Waste Approval and Compliance Requirements*.

Pre-treatment and discharge requirements

Pre-treatment requirements are dependent upon the laundry processes undertaken.

Table 1. Pre-treatment devices

Pre-treatment Device	Details
Lint screens	Lint screens with a 2.0 mm maximum aperture size must be installed. They may be within each washing machine or in a central location prior to the wastewater mixing with domestic wastewater and/or discharge to Icon Water's Sewerage Network.
Cooling pit¹	Must be installed to receive and provide cooling to all wastewater from the laundry, that exceeds 38°C. It must be installed, sized, and vented to reduce the temperature of the wastewater to less than 38 °C prior to discharge to Icon Water's Sewerage Network. The sizing calculations for the pit to achieve the required temperature must be provided. It must be installed to receive all wastewater generated from laundry activities that exceed 38°C. A cooling pit is <u>not</u> required if: • only cold water is used for washing, or • a device reducing the temperature of hot water is installed, or • if ozone technology is used in all washing machines in the premises.

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

Cooling pit

Installation requirements

Location: Installation of the pre-treatment device(s) must allow safe access for maintenance and inspection. They 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 their 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.

Cooling 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. It must be designed to encourage cooling of the incoming wastewater by mixing with cool wastewater already in the pit. The temperature of the wastewater must be below 38°C prior to discharge to the Sewerage Network. It must be constructed and installed to allow ease of inspection and cleaning. The lids/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 low-level stop switch.

Vertical clearance: Ensure there is adequate vertical clearance above the pre-treatment system to allow safe inspection and cleaning.

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.

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.

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.

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 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

Any spills and leaks of chemicals, including detergents, must be cleaned by dry methods in the first instance.

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's publication *STD-SPE-P-003 Trade Waste Approval and Compliance Requirements*.

References

- *STD-SPE-P-003 Trade Waste Approval and Compliance Requirements*
- *TW-GN-108 Trade Waste Guide Note – Dry-Cleaning*

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