



## ***Does your business discharge tradewaste into the wastewater (sewer) system?***

If the answer is 'yes', then you need a tradewaste discharge consent from Marlborough District Council.

## ***Why is a discharge consent necessary?***

*It helps:* Marlborough District Council to protect its workers, its infrastructure and the environment you live and work in from hazardous substances.

*It helps:* You and your business to save money, minimise waste and reclaim valuable product.

## ***What should you do if you want more information?***

Marlborough District Council employs a team of tradewaste officers who administer the tradewaste bylaws. Our tradewaste officers are always available to assist with enquiries, applications and other related matters.

For further information please contact:

Marlborough District Council  
15 Seymour Street  
PO Box 443  
Blenheim 7240

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Or call into our Blenheim Customer Service Centre at  
15 Seymour Street, Blenheim



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# **TRADEWASTE**



## **YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED**



## **What is tradewaste?**

Put simply, it's any liquid discharged into the wastewater (sewer) system from trade premises during commercial or industrial processes.

Obviously the nature and quantity of industrial waste can vary enormously, so Marlborough District Council has implemented a special bylaw - MDC Tradewaste Bylaw 2001 (reviewed 2011) - to set certain controls on the discharge of potentially harmful industrial waste which occur in the Council's systems.

Now any business (including food businesses) that discharges tradewaste into the wastewater system must apply for a tradewaste discharge consent from MDC.

## **How is tradewaste categorised?**

The Council has formulated three categories for tradewaste discharges and the issue of discharge consents:

1. **Acceptable** - consent shall be granted for discharge of acceptable tradewaste subject to the standard conditions in schedule 4 of Tradewaste Bylaw.
2. **Conditional** - consent may be granted subject to specific conditions additional to the standard conditions. MDC reserves discretion to decline consent to discharge.
3. **Prohibited** - MDC will not grant consent for such discharge.

## **What is the purpose of the Tradewaste Bylaw?**

- ◆ To protect the health and safety of all people working in the wastewater system by applying strict standards for harmful substances.
- ◆ To protect the wastewater infrastructure from damage due to harmful substances from tradewaste sources.
- ◆ To protect receiving waters from toxic substances originating from tradewaste discharges.
- ◆ To assist the Council to meet relevant environmental and other regulations including producing effluent and biosolids to a guaranteed quality.
- ◆ To encourage waste minimisation and cleaner production in the commercial and industrial sectors.

The Bylaw also provides a valuable opportunity for businesses to examine the cost of their waste flows and to implement waste minimisation programmes. Many industries globally are benefiting from the cost savings of such programmes in reducing waste charges and reclaiming valuable product to their business.

## **What fees are involved?**

Businesses discharging tradewaste may incur the following charges:

- ◆ User charges, depending on the strength of the waste and the volume discharged (this reflects the costs incurred by the Council in treating the wastewater).
- ◆ Although most businesses won't require it, dischargers may need to pay an accredited laboratory for any required sampling and testing.

## **How is tradewaste monitored?**

1. A tradewaste or environmental health officer will inspect your premises and its tradewaste discharge before issuing a consent. Regular tests may be undertaken later.
2. A business may be required to pay for the volume of wastewater it discharges. Using a water or flow meter will help with calculating charges.
3. A business must be able to supply documentary proof that cleaning is occurring—particularly with regard to grease trap or sump maintenance.



## **What happens if a business doesn't comply with its discharge consent?**

If a business does not comply with the provisions of its discharge consent, that business is likely to be elevated to a higher risk category and consequently subject to increased monitoring and higher discharge requirements. Non-compliance, including non-payment of charges, and therefore discharging without a consent, can also result in prosecution under the Local Government Act.