

Preface

Liquid waste generated by industry, small business and commercial enterprises is referred to as trade waste. The *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* prohibits the unauthorised discharge of wastes, other than domestic sewage, into the sewerage system.

1. The definition of trade waste is;
 - *The waterborne waste from business, trade or manufacturing property, other than:*
 - *Waste that is a prohibited substance; or*
 - *Human waste; or*
 - *Stormwater.*
2. The definition of Domestic waste is;
 - *Faecal matter and urine of human origin and liquid wastes from sinks, baths, basins, showers and similar fixtures designed for personal hygiene in both residential and commercial properties.*

Commercial retail activities

1. Tray Work/manual development

Description of Activity

This activity is limited to small operations, such as hobby clubs, cottage industries, etc. It does not include graphic arts activities

Pre-Treatment Requirements

All 'spent' solutions need to be collected and transported off site by an EPA licenced contractor. Only the rinse and sink waters are permitted to be discharged to the sewerage system.

A balancing tank/pit is not required for this activity.

2. Waterless Minilab

Description of Activity

Waterless minilab activities are limited to facilities such as photographic shops and chemists that use a waterless photographic processor. They do not include any other form of photographic processor.

Pre-Treatment Requirements

Applicants may elect to transport all 'spent' solutions off site, with only the rinse and sink waters being discharged to the sewerage system, or to discharge 'spent' solutions, rinse and sink waters to the sewerage system.

When spent solutions are not transported from the site, silver-bearing waste is to be treated in a silver recovery unit. The effluent from a silver recovery unit should not contain more than 5 mg/L of silver. The supplier of the silver recovery unit should supply a written guarantee of the unit with regard to the requirement of effluent silver limit.

When all spent solutions are transported from the site, the applicant should provide written evidence. No pre-treatment will be required. A balancing tank/pit is not required for waterless minilabs

Impact on Plumbing Materials

Wastewater from waterless photographic processors should not come in contact with copper pipes, as this may result in corrosion. Drainage of photographic wastes to copper pipes should only be permitted where the owner of the property acknowledges and accepts in writing an awareness of the risks to the drainage system.