

Trade Waste

Cleaner Production for the Food Industry

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Fact Sheet

What is Cleaner Production?

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) defines Cleaner Production as *“the continuous application of an integrated environmental strategy to processes, products and services to increase efficiency and reduce risks to humans and the environment”*.

Council encourages Industrial or Commercial Businesses to manage their daily operating costs, increase saleable products and profit margins whilst using fewer raw materials. Cleaner Production aids organisations to comply with environmental legislation. Adopting a Cleaner Production approach, can reduce liability, regulation, monitoring cost and enhance control over your business.

Cleaner Production Benefits

Cleaner Production can lead to economic savings by:

- Reducing or eliminating wasted raw material; or
- Reducing water and energy consumption; or
- Reducing or eliminating liquid and solid waste disposal costs.

Cleaner production helps reduce the cost of trade waste. Working towards cleaner production will greatly help you to comply with stricter environmental legislation. It will also bring the benefits of reduced liability, reduce regulation, reduced monitoring costs, potentially reduced licensing charges and better control over your business.

For generators, an effective Trade Waste Cleaner Production program should include:

- A description and a clear objective of achievable targets for discharge quantity and quality;
- Assessing how materials enter your business and are processed up to delivery to customers (flow diagram);
- Examination of waste prevention and recycling options including conservation of water;
- A program involving the development of waste reduction and pre-treatment aimed at reducing contaminant levels in waste and wastewater (an action program may be required, detailing expected outcomes, timelines and milestones); and
- Provisions for monitoring, recording and reporting waste quantity and quality for continual improvement and to reduce waste costs.

Becoming an Eco Efficient Food Business in Logan

Trade waste effluent from retail food activities may contain solids, oils and grease. This can cause blockages and overflows in your pipes and overload your pre-treatment system and our infrastructure network. Introducing a few good housekeeping practices will improve the quality of your trade waste effluent.

Who can adopt cleaner production practices?

Any industrial or commercial business that prepares, manufactures, cooks or serves (takeaway or dine) food to customers can adopt cleaner production industry practices. Cleaner production strategies can be employed by:

- Any food processing, manufacturing and retailing business
- Supermarket & grocery store
- Café or restaurant
- Takeaway food retailing
- Hotel or club
- Catering service

When to adopt cleaner production?

Strategies to prevent or reduce waste entering the sewer system are encouraged in the planning and designing phase of the setup of any food business. By implementing strategies at an early stage there are long-term economic savings in reduced conveyance and treatment costs for your business.

The installation of a properly sized, approved best practice pre-treatment device, together with an acceptable maintenance program in accordance with the conditions of the trade waste approval shall be deemed to provide a satisfactory effluent with respect to the general limit parameters of the sewer admission limits unless the trade waste generator is requested to develop an effluent improvement program.

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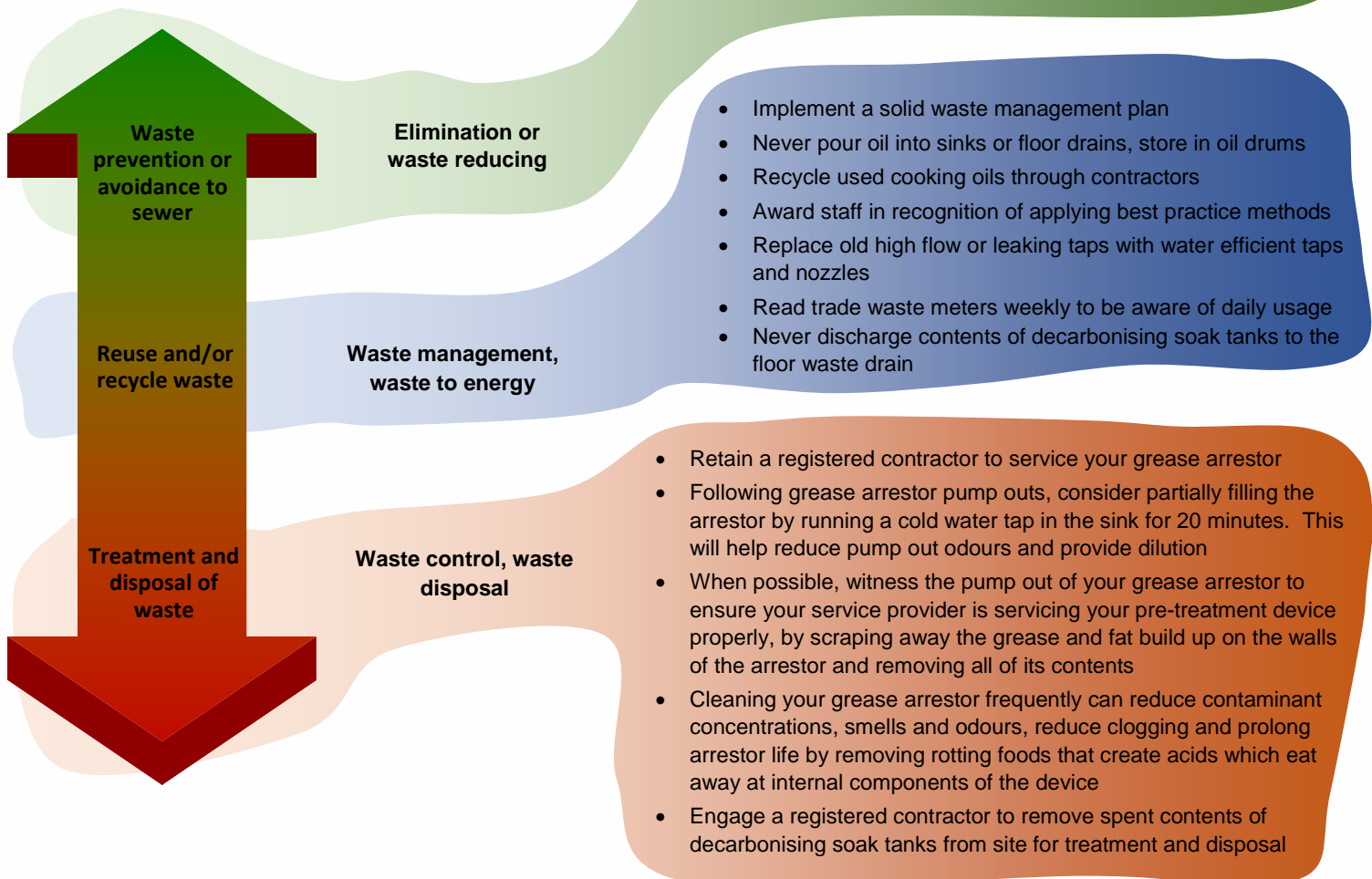
Housekeeping tips for the food industry

Introducing certain internal practices can improve the quality of your trade waste effluent. Removing solids, oils and grease from your effluent stream at the source helps prevent your pre-treatment system being overloaded. It will also help reduce the number of blockages and overflows within your property.

The cleaner production hierarchy can facilitate the introduction of housekeeping practices toward improving the quality of your trade waste effluent.

- Properly sized and maintained grease arrestor
- Wipe or sweep spills and place into solid waste bin
- Scrape food scraps and dispose in solid waste bin
- Dry wipe plates to remove oils and sauces
- Avoid sugars, coffee grounds, tea leaves and gravy being washed down sinks
- Pre-rinse plates and cutlery in cool water
- Wait for a full load before using the dishwasher
- Avoid extremely high temperatures
- Use less detergent, measure cleaning products as recommended by the manufacturer
- Avoid using bleach or caustic soda
- Provide sufficient rubbish bins near work areas

The Cleaner Production Hierarchy



Join the "Logan Business Eco-Efficiency Program"
<http://www.environment.gov.au/archive/settlements/industry/corporate/eecp/industry.html>

Logan City Council acknowledges the support of the Eco-efficiency Group who have provided information included in this fact sheet. <http://www.ecoefficiencygroup.com.au/>

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