

Animal washing / holding areas

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Trade waste discharges from animal washing and holding areas could harm the sewerage system. This waste might contain high levels of suspended solids and nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus). Contaminated stormwater from exposed hard stand areas could flood the sewer if not properly managed.

'Animal holding area' refers to any business or enterprise or part thereof which undertakes the temporary or long-term accommodation or containment of animals including, but not limited to:

- Large veterinary clinics
- Animal hospitals
- Animal racing tracks and showgrounds
- Animal holding bays
- Zoological cages/pens
- Boarding kennels
- Horse stables
- Animal grooming services

Key trade waste quality requirements

Parameter	Generally accepted level
Suspended Solids	≤500 mg/L
Total Dissolved Solids	≤1500 mg/L
pH	Between 6-10 units
Flow rate to sewer	Dependant on capacity of receiving sewer

Note: Discharge limits may be varied under certain circumstances for individual dischargers.

Typical pre-treatment for indoor areas

- All solids (faeces, straw, hair/fur, food scraps, bedding etc) are collected before wash down of any animal enclosure and disposed of via a solid waste/manure bin.
- Solid waste/manure bins are designed or located to exclude stormwater/rainwater.
- Used waters containing any remaining hair/fur or large solids are discharged via a 225mm silt trap fitted with a mesh basket or holed bucket (2mm holes/mesh) including a fixed secondary strainer with a max 2mm hole size, or other approved screening device.
- All wash down areas are:
 - Constructed of impervious material, with a minimum 1:80 gradient to drain point;
 - Bunded and roofed to contain wash water and exclude rainwater from sewer. Walls may be employed, but where sides are left open, a minimum roof overhang of 1 metre for every 3 metres of height is required.
- Disposal of used water containing chemicals is in accordance with Laboratories and Clinical Practices Guideline.

- Used waters and other wastes not permitted to the sewer are stored in approved containers and/or blind tanks in accordance with Trade Waste Bunding and Blind Tank Guideline.

Unroofed areas

In exceptional circumstances where roofing is not practical, SA Water may agree to accept contaminated stormwater from exposed work areas to sewer in accordance with the Trade Waste Contaminated Stormwater Guideline.

More information

Mains water protection (AS/NZS 3500.1:2015)

[Backflow Prevention Requirements - Office of the Technical Regulator](#)