



# Trade waste requirements for craft breweries

## Introduction

All customers who want to connect and discharge trade wastewater to our assets must first seek our written approval. This guide applies to craft breweries discharging less than 12 kL/day, and outlines our conditions and requirements for discharge of trade wastewater into our wastewater system. A brewery exceeding or expecting to exceed this daily discharge volume must seek Sydney Water approval to discharge industrial trade wastewater.

Please note that if retail food is being prepared on site you must also seek approval from us. Refer to our 'Plumbing for retail food businesses' guide at [sydneywater.com.au](https://sydneywater.com.au) for more information.

## Steps when seeking approval to connect and discharge trade wastewater

1. Apply for a connection approval through [Sydney Water Tap in](#)<sup>®</sup>.
2. If you have an existing connection approval, you should apply to 'discharge trade wastewater' at Sydney Water Tap in before you purchase your equipment to ensure you are able to connect the equipment to our system.
3. One of our Business Customer staff will case manage your application through to approval.

## Requirements

To obtain a Sydney Water approval, you will be required to ensure the following requirements are met:

### 1. Settling

Spent hops, other grains, yeast, etc., must be settled either in process tanks/vats or in a settling pit. Settled solids must be removed for off-site management (reuse or disposal).

### 2. Screening

You must install Sydney Water approved in-floor waste bucket traps in all dedicated trade waste streams of the brewery.

### 3. Dedicated collection pit

You must install a collection pit of at least 500 L working capacity.

#### 4. Automatic pH correction

You must install an automatic pH control unit to adjust pH to within the acceptance range of 7 to 10 (we do not allow any discharge to our wastewater system outside of that range).

#### 5. Electromagnetic flow meter

You must have an electromagnetic flow meter to measure the volume of trade wastewater you discharge. Refer to the 'Flow measurement for trade waste discharges' guide at [sydneywater.com.au](https://sydneywater.com.au) for installation and calibration requirements.

#### 6. Temperature

Temperature of the trade wastewater must not exceed 38°C.

#### 7. Sampling point

A trade waste sampling point should be provided in a safe and accessible location adjacent to the discharge flow meter.

#### 8. Backflow protection

You must comply with our backflow requirements as detailed in our *Customer Contract*. This means you must engage a backflow-accredited licensed plumber to install and test backflow containment device(s), at the property boundary next to the water meter(s) servicing your property.

### Automatic pH correction

All breweries require an automated pH control unit to ensure wastewater is within our acceptance criteria of 7 to 10 before you can discharge to our system.

We recommend your pH control should either be in-line control (before entering the collection pit) or recirculating using the collection pit as an equalisation tank. Both methods must be automated with control units.

Discharge pH must be clearly displayed in LCD or LED digital format.

The pH correction system must be maintained and calibrated as per manufacturer's recommendations. The pH correction reagents should be replenished regularly.

We recommend you seek expert advice to determine the best way to achieve pH correction.

### Definitions

#### Customer Contract

The *Customer Contract* is a legally enforceable document which sets out the rights and obligations of Customers and Sydney Water in accordance with the *Sydney Water Act 1994*. This contract is summarised in a brochure called 'Our contract with you' available at [sydneywater.com.au](https://sydneywater.com.au).

#### Connection approval

You must have our written permission to connect to our systems. This is a requirement of section 48 and 49 of the *Sydney Water Act 1994*.