Fact Sheet
Commercial Waste Storage & Removal

All food businesses within Latrobe City Council are required to have correct commercial waste storage under the Victorian Food Safety Standards. The area MUST be maintained in a clean condition at all times.

Commercial waste covers general waste, recyclables, organic waste and waste oil. All commercial waste must be maintained onsite at the premises prior to collection.

The rubbish bins/waste skips must be of a suitable size, quantity, be able to be effectively cleaned, either by the proprietor or a contractor, and have tight fitting lids. Waste must be removed from the premises at a frequency that prevents overflowing which could attract pests and generate odours. The bins should be located in an area where they can be easily emptied without being transported through food preparation areas.

The ideal bin storage area should be planned when constructing a new food business. The area should be secure, undercover, have access to hot water for washing, drained to the sewer and easily accessible for collection.

For existing premises to ensure your bin storage area is maintained in a clean condition consider the following;

* use double bags or heavy duty bags where they have been breaking
* minimise the amount of liquid going into your waste
* ensure bins are in a clean state, this can be achieved by washing bins onsite providing the waste water goes to sewer, or use an on-site cleaning service
* increase collections during peak periods
* keep lids secure and closed to prevent bird and other pest access
* train staff on all aspects of keeping the area tidy
* flatten boxes to allow for better storage of waste and to reduce the likelihood of the bin overflowing.

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| bins overflowingFigure : Incorrect rubbish storage | Bin with lid closedFigure : Correct rubbish storage |

Food businesses are reminded that it is an offence under the Latrobe City Community Amenity Local Law Number 2 for failing to keep the bin storage area in a clean condition, and the storage site must not detrimentally affect the amenity of the area. The maximum penalty for failing to comply is $1653.00.

Do’s and Don’ts of Waste Management

Good waste management practices are important as they help to reduce pests to the food premises, reduce odour issues and prevent pollution to our storm water system and waterways.

Key tips for food waste management practices:

# DO

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| **Liquid Waste (including oil)** | **Hard Waste** |
| Remember a stormwater drain is just for rain water | Have adequate bins for your business with tight closing lids – the lids must remain closed at all times to prevent pest attraction and rubbish blowing around |
| Store liquids where spills can be easily contained and cleaned up promptly | Recycle your rubbish as much as possible to reduce the amount of hard waste in garbage bins |
| Have a ‘spill kit’ handy such as saw dust, kitty litter that can be used to clean up the liquid spill. The product can be swept up and placed into the bin | Ensure bins are clean and in a good state of repair with no holes or damage to allow for leakages.Replace any broken storage units promptly |
| Ensure waste oil is stored securely and collected regularly by a contractor | Keep your bins locked to discourage others from dumping rubbish in your bin |
| The area must be maintained in a clean condition at all times – waste oil drums must be covered at all times | Remember disposal of liquid, solid or waste water to the stormwater drain and failure to adequately store your rubbish may result in Council issuing a Penalty Infringement Notice |

# DON’T

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| **Liquid Waste (including oil)** | **Hard Waste** |
| Tip oil, food waste, chemicals, detergents or waste water down the stormwater drain | Put rubbish in an already full bin |
| Hose down floors, driveways or bin storage areas into the stormwater drain or allow mop water to be tipped down the stormwater drain. | Store bags of rubbish at the back door or outside your food premises |
| Allow waste oil to spill out of the top and down the sides of oil drums | Dump bags or loose rubbish on the floor |