

COMMERCIAL WASTE MANAGEMENT UPDATE

FROM 1 JULY 2025

Your fees and charges explained

City of Darwin is committed to being a clean and environmentally responsible city and providing a sustainable waste management and resource recovery facility for Greater Darwin.

The setting of waste fees and charges

Fees and charges are calculated for residents and commercial operators to cover the operational running costs and significant capital upgrades required for environmental compliance, recycling, and ensuring the long-term capacity of Shoal Bay Waste Management Facility (Shoal Bay).

Shoal Bay's waste management fees are similar to, and in many cases less than, comparable interstate facilities.

Recent capital upgrades at Shoal Bay

Since 2016, more than \$50 million has been spent on capital upgrades at Shoal Bay to ensure a long-term sustainable future for the facility, including:

- construction of a leachate treatment plant, treating liquid waste generated in landfill
- construction of covered leachate storage ponds
- installation of landfill gas collection systems
- capping of existing landfill cells
- construction of new landfill cells.

Contamination charges

Contamination charges are required because contaminated waste is difficult to recycle and ends up in landfill. There are significant operational costs involved in separating, loading, and transporting mixed waste streams for recycling.

What is considered contamination?

Contamination is when general waste, green waste, construction waste, concrete or soil are mixed with other waste types.



**WASTE MANAGEMENT
AND RESOURCE RECOVERY**



The table below explains what is considered contamination for each type of waste:

Waste type	Definition	Considered contamination	Contamination examples
General waste	Non-recyclable waste from household and workplace litter bins	Contamination greater than 10 per cent volume will attract a contamination charge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green waste • Concrete • Construction and demolition waste • Soil
Green waste	Vegetation material including lawn clippings, palm fronds, shrubs and trees	Any amount of other waste streams are considered contamination and will attract a contamination charge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General waste • Concrete • Construction and demolition waste • Soil
Concrete	Clean concrete that may contain reo rods less than 12mm in thickness	Contamination greater than 10 per cent volume or reo rod greater than 12mm thickness will attract a contamination charge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General waste • Green waste • Construction and demolition waste • Soil
Construction and demolition waste	Bricks, tiles, plastics, insulation, timber, pallets, metal and concrete	Contamination greater than 10 per cent volume will attract a contamination charge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General waste • Green waste • Soil
Soil	Soil received under an application form for soil assessment	Determined by soil assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General waste • Green waste • Concrete • Construction and demolition waste

How are contamination levels monitored at Shoal Bay?

Shoal Bay staff use CCTV to check loads for contamination at the weighbridge and at the load tipping site.

How to avoid contamination charges

Plan ahead by:

- separating waste at the source - provide separate bins for separate waste streams
- educating your stakeholders on bin management and waste separation practices.

Minimum fees

Minimum fees apply to green waste when the tonnage rate is less than the minimum fee.

Mattresses

Mattresses at Shoal Bay will now be deconstructed for recycling. All mattresses will be charged at a single unit rate. Where mattresses are mixed with other waste streams, a standardised mattress weight will be subtracted from the recorded waste tonnage.

The new commercial fees and charges are provided below:

Commercial Waste Disposal	2025/26 Fees & Charges including GST (\$)
Asbestos (per tonne)	500.00
Concrete - clean with reo less than 12mm and no other contaminants (per tonne)	65.00
Concrete - contaminated (per tonne)	255.00
Construction waste - clean (per tonne)	195.00
Construction waste - contaminated (per tonne)	255.00
General waste – all vehicles (per tonne)	195.00
General waste contaminated with green waste - all vehicles (per tonne)	255.00
Green waste - clean (per tonne)	95.00
Green waste - clean (minimum fee)	44.00
Green waste - contaminated (per tonne)	205.00
Green waste - contaminated (minimum fee)	85.00
Mattresses - all sizes (per item)	40.00
Recyclables (per tonne)	460.00
Reprinting of weighbridge docket (per docket)	20.00
Soil - clean fill (by arrangement)	Free
Soil - contaminated (by arrangement)	200.00
Solar inverters	35.00
Solar panels (standard)	25.00
Special waste (per tonne)	390.00
Steel - clean	Free
Tyres - whole (per tonne)	1,265.00

Note

- Tyres up to light truck/semi-trailer size (295/75R22.5) are accepted.
- Commercial rates apply to all waste(s) received from contractors undertaking residential activities.
- Commercial whitegoods (fridges/freezers/air conditioners etc.) containing refrigerant cannot be disposed at Shoal Bay unless a degassing certificate is supplied.
- Commercial e-waste (printers/photocopiers/TV's/computer equipment) are not accepted at Shoal Bay.

Contact us

For further information, please contact City of Darwin on 08 8930 0815.