

NABERS Waste: List of Waste Streams

The [NABERS Waste Platform](#) enables commercial buildings to measure and monitor their operational waste performance, and to be certified for a NABERS Waste Rating or Verification.

This document describes the various waste streams that are available to buildings configured on the NABERS Waste Platform.

The allowed waste measurement methods are either weight of the contents of bins collected by a waste contractor (Weight only), or a count of bins collected by a waste contractor. Refer to our [data upload template and format instructions](#) for more information.

Waste type	Waste stream, listed on the platform as	Description	NABERS Std density (kg/m ³)	NABERS std contamination rate (%)	Allowed waste measurement methods
General waste	General waste	Landfill waste or putrescible waste, this includes waste going to an alternative waste treatment facility.	105	N/A	Any
	Dry waste	Waste which will not rot, decay or disintegrate over time and has little or no moisture content, can also be described as inorganic or non-biodegradable waste. The platform assumes this waste type is collected for waste to energy.	70	N/A	Any
Mixed recycling	Mixed recycling	Also referred to as co-mingled recycling, capturing commonly identifiable recyclables. Bin usually has a yellow lid, and usually contains: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper • Cardboard • Glass containers and bottles • Aluminium, tin and steel cans • Hard plastic bottles and containers For clarification of what can be included contact the waste contractor responsible.	60	30	Any
	CDS mixed recycling	Mixed recycling separated to the point it will be accepted by a Container Deposit Scheme	53	2	Any

Waste type	Waste stream, listed on the platform as	Description	NABERS Std density (kg/m ³)	NABERS std contamination rate (%)	Allowed waste measurement methods
Paper / Cardboard	Paper & cardboard	A mixed paper and cardboard stream only, containing loose paper, and loose and compacted cardboard. e.g. office paper, newspaper, boxes.	50	5	Any
	Cardboard (compacted)	Cardboard only stream that is compacted into bales.	90	2	Any
	Paper	Loose paper only stream. e.g. office paper, newspaper no paper with any plastic content (coffee cups).	90	5	Any
	Cardboard	Loose cardboard only stream.	35	2	Any
	Secure paper	Confidential paper documents which need to be disposed of securely.	80	N/A	Any
	Paper Towel	Hand towels/paper towels from bathrooms.	N/A	15	Weight Only
Organics	Organics	Compostable waste, e.g. food waste, compostable packaging Can include some green waste, e.g. office flowers, but any bins that are primarily green waste should be listed under that stream.	280	2	Any
	Cooking oil	All types of cooking oil used in food preparation.	910	N/A	Any
	Green/garden waste	Garden waste e.g. sticks and twigs, leaves, flowers, grass clippings, weeds and shrubs.	N/A	5	Weight Only
	Fish and meat	Separated meat, bone, fish.	N/A	30	Weight Only
	Food donation	Food donated to charities, from normal operations of the building, that would otherwise end up in a general waste stream. Does not include food donations sourced from occupants of the building as part of a philanthropic activity.	N/A	N/A	Weight Only

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Glass	Glass	Glass only waste stream, e.g. Bottles and jars.	200	2	Any
	Crushed Glass	Glass which is crushed prior to being weighed and picked up.	1800	N/A	Weight Only
	CDS Glass Bottles	Glass bottles separated to the point they can be accepted by a Container Deposit Scheme	200	2	Any
Plastic	Polystyrene	Expanded polystyrene.	15	2	Any
	CDS plastic containers	Plastic containers separated to the point they can be accepted by a Container Deposit Scheme.	25	2	Any
	Soft Plastic	Plastic that can be easily scrunched into a ball e.g. plastic packaging, plastic bags.	25	2	Any
	Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)	A waste stream that contains items made from PVC only, such as credit cards, cling wrap, liquid bags, face masks, tubing.	90	5	Any
	HDPE	HDPE is used in the production of plastic bottles, corrosion-resistant piping, geomembranes and plastic lumber. HDPE is commonly recycled and has the number "2" as its resin identification code.	N/A	2	Weight only
	PET	PET is the type of plastic labelled with the "1" code on or near the bottom of bottles and containers and is commonly used to package soft drinks, water, juice, peanut butter, salad dressings and oil, cosmetics and household cleaners.	N/A	2	Weight only
	Polypropylene	Polypropylene is the type of plastic labeled with the "5" is used in a variety of applications which include packaging for consumer products, plastic parts for various industries including the automotive industry, special devices like living hinges, bottle tops, rope, bulkabags and textiles	N/A	2	Weight only

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e-waste	E-waste	Equipment that requires an electrical cord or battery to operate. e.g. televisions, whitegoods, phones, computer equipment, printers, light fittings, etc. Must meet the rules for operational waste, rather than strip-out waste.	N/A	N/A	Weight Only
	Mobile phones	Mobile phones collected through a reputable mobile phone recycler or donated to a charity	N/A	N/A	Weight Only
	Batteries	Any type of battery, except lead acid batteries from vehicles or similar.	N/A	N/A	Weight Only
Miscellaneous	Printer cartridges	Inkjet and laser cartridges, toner bottles, drum kits, fuser kits, fax photocopier or printer cartridges.	N/A	N/A	Weight Only
	Coffee cups	Disposable coffee cups only with lids going into mixed recycling	N/A	N/A	Weight Only
	Coffee pods	Recyclable coffee pods collected as part of a dedicated product stewardship or takeback scheme. Must be returned through a dedicated closed loop process.	N/A	N/A	Weight Only
	Light globes and tubes (lamps)	Any lamps or tubes for example compact fluorescent lamps, fluorescent tubes, LED lamps etc.	N/A	N/A	Weight Only
	CDS cartons	Cartons separated to the point they can be accepted by a Container Deposit Scheme	30	2	Any
	End of life products	"End-of-life" (EOL) is a term used with respect to a product, indicating that the product is at the end of its useful life, from the vendor's point of view. These items may be recycled, donated or reworked.	N/A	N/A	Weight Only
	Hard Waste	Waste created from the wear and tear of miscellaneous equipment and furniture.	N/A	N/A	Weight Only

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	Mattresses	Used or damaged mattresses sent to a recycler	N/A	N/A	Weight Only
	Pallets	Heat treated wooden pallets (identified by an International Plant Protection Convention or IPPC stamp), or untreated wooden pallets. Chemically treated pallets are not accepted as recycled in the rating.	N/A	N/A	Weight Only
Metals	CDS aluminium cans	Mixed recycling separated to the point it will be accepted by the Container Deposit scheme	27	2	Any
	Scrap Metal	Scrap metal is the combination of waste metal, metallic material and any product that contains metal that is capable of being recycled.	N/A	N/A	Weight Only
Textiles	Textiles	Bed sheets, cloth aprons, curtains, etc. which are being recycled or repurposed.	N/A	5	Weight Only
Clinical	Anatomical waste	Body parts, organs, placenta and recognisable or large pathological specimens	158	N/A	Weight Only
	Clinical waste	Waste resulting from medical, nursing, pharmaceutical, skin penetration or other clinical related activity. May include the following human tissue, bulk body fluids, materials or equipment, laboratory specimens or cultures, etc.	106	N/A	Weight Only
	Pharmaceutical waste	Pharmaceuticals or other chemical substances for example drugs, remedies or medication that have either expired or are no longer being used.	106	N/A	Weight Only
	Sterilisation wraps	Sterilisation wraps	N/A	N/A	Weight Only
	Sharps	Infection control Sharp objects—eg, needles, syringes with needles, scalpels, blades, disposable scissors, suture equipment, stylets,	158	N/A	Weight Only

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		and trocars, broken test tubes, and glass that may contain human blood, fluids and tissues with pathogens			
	Sanitary waste (AHW)	Absorbent hygiene waste - nappies, adult nappies, sanitary pads, tampons, etc.	106	N/A	Weight Only
Hazardous	Chemical waste	Waste containing hazardous chemicals such as chemicals toxic to aquatic, marine and terrestrial life or flammable examples are paint, engine oil, water treatment chemicals, etc.	N/A	N/A	Weight Only
	Cytotoxic waste	Any substance contaminated with residue or preparations the contain materials that are toxic to cells principally through their action on cell production.	158	N/A	Weight Only
	Radioactive waste	Radioactive waste is material contaminated with radioactive substances which arises from medical or research use of radionuclides.	N/A	N/A	Weight Only
	Volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds (VOC)	These are organic chemicals that have a high vapour pressure at ordinary room temperature such as formaldehyde, ethanol, phenol, and mercury.	N/A	N/A	Weight Only



Contact us

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