

# Closure of AJ Bush & Sons meat rendering facility

## Frequently Asked Questions



5 June 2024

### 1. What is happening with the AJ Bush & Sons meat rendering facility?

The AJ Bush & Sons meat rendering facility in Riverstone closed at the end of May 2024.

### 2. Why are the costs for animal waste removal increasing?

The collection service for butchers and small meat processors was previously a free or low-cost service offered by AJ Bush & Sons and other transport providers. With the closure of the AJ Bush & Sons Riverstone facility, there will now be a cost for alternative services required to collect, transport and dispose of animal waste.

### 3. What will the cost be for my business to dispose of animal waste?

The costs for collection, transport and disposal of animal waste will be a commercial negotiation that business owners will need to undertake with waste collection providers.

These costs will vary based on the provider and the quantity of waste involved.

### 4. What are my options in terms of the removal of animal waste produced by my business?

Please contact your animal waste collection provider or commercial waste management provider to discuss options that suit your circumstances.

A list of commercial providers is below

Company	Region	Contact
Remondis	All Areas	13 73 73 (Contact: Brad Williams) nationalsales@remondis.com.au
JJ Richards	Newcastle/ Central Coast	1300 971 325 admin.newcastle@jjswaste.com.au
	Sydney	02 9832 4022 admin.sydney@jjswaste.com.au
BINGO	All areas	1300 424 646 commercialwaste@bingoindustries.com.au
Cleanaway	All Areas	13 13 39 (Contact: Leigh Newman)
Veolia	All Areas	132 955 (Contact: Jim Hennessy)

**5. Can I dispose of my animal waste with other food waste or via other waste disposal services?**

You will need to check with your commercial waste provider if you can dispose of animal waste as part of your commercial waste collection, or whether they can provide a separate service for this material.

**6. What are the penalties for not disposing of animal waste properly?**

Animal waste is classed as 'putrescible waste', which can pose a risk to human health and the environment as it breaks down.

Animal waste must go to a facility that is licensed to accept putrescible waste.

There are large fines for businesses who fail to properly dispose of waste. Courts can impose a maximum penalty of \$2 million for waste offences, and additional penalties may apply each day the offence continues.

**7. What else do I need to consider when disposing of animal waste?**

The [NSW Retail Meat Food Safety Program](#) provides information and guidance to retail meat businesses licensed with the NSW Food Authority on how to meet their food regulatory requirements.

Liquid and solid animal waste must be stored and removed in a manner that does not jeopardise the safety of meat and meat products for human consumption.

**8. Who can I contact to discuss options and to obtain support to assist me and my business?**

If your question relates to regulatory requirements for the disposal of waste, please contact the NSW Environment Protection Authority, 131 555 or [info@epa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@epa.nsw.gov.au)

If your question relates to your food regulatory requirements, please contact the NSW Food Authority, 1300 552 406 or [food.contact@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:food.contact@dpi.nsw.gov.au)

If you are enquiring about independent or meat processor matters, please contact the Australian Meat Industry Council (the peak industry organisation supporting independent butchers and meat processors). Please call Ian Hayes, NSW/ACT State Manager, 0427 012 140

If your question relates to on-farm producer matters, please contact the NSW Farmers' Association - Member Service Centre, 1300 794 000

A Service NSW Business Concierge can assist if you are looking for support for your small business – call 13 77 88 or visit [www.service.nsw.gov.au/business](http://www.service.nsw.gov.au/business).