

Duty of care checklist

Used cooking oil in a commercial kitchen · England

Section 34 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 makes you responsible for your waste after it leaves your premises. If it is fly-tipped, having paid someone to take it is not by itself a defence. This is what "reasonable steps" looks like in practice. Work down it once, then keep it with your records.

BEFORE THE FIRST COLLECTION

- ☐ Asked the collector for their waste carrier registration number, not a certificate image
- ☐ Looked that number up myself on the Environment Agency public register
- ☐ Checked the registered name on the register matches the company that invoices me
- ☐ Checked the registration is upper tier if they buy the oil rather than only move it
- ☐ Checked the registration has not expired
- ☐ Saved a screenshot or dated note of that check

STORING THE OIL

- ☐ Oil is cooled before it goes into the container
- ☐ Containers are sealed, in sound condition and not overfilled
- ☐ Stored on a hard surface, away from drains and surface water
- ☐ Stored where it cannot be reached by the public or knocked over in a walkway
- ☐ Nothing else goes in: no water, cleaning chemicals, food waste or fryer debris
- ☐ Nothing ever goes down a sink or drain

EVERY COLLECTION

- ☐ A waste transfer note is completed and signed by both parties
- ☐ The note carries EWC code 20 01 25 and a real measured quantity
- ☐ The quantity on the note matches the quantity I was paid on
- ☐ My copy is filed the same day, not left in the van or on the counter

YOUR RECORDS

- ☐ Every transfer note kept for at least two years
- ☐ Records retrievable within a few minutes if an officer asks today
- ☐ Season ticket, if used, does not run longer than twelve months
- ☐ A named person in the business knows where all of this lives