

## Glossary for Wastewater Systems

Term	Description
Blackwater	<b>Wastewater</b> from toilets and urinals only. High organic loading.
BOD	<b>Biochemical Oxygen Demand</b> – since oxygen is required in the breakdown or decomposition process of wastewater, its “demand” or BOD, is a measure of the concentration of organics in the wastewater.
COD	<b>Chemical Oxygen Demand</b> – the amount of chemical oxidant required to breakdown wastewater products, also an indicator of the concentration of organics.
DO	<b>Dissolved Oxygen</b> – the amount of oxygen in the water. Measured in milligrams per litre (mg/L) or % of total oxygen-holding capacity.
DRP	<b>Dissolved Reactive Phosphorus</b> – the soluble forms of phosphorus. Measured in g/m <sup>3</sup> or mg/L expressed as phosphorus (P).
Effluent	The final treated output flow of a wastewater treatment plant. Sometimes referred to as treated wastewater.
E. coli	<b>Escherichia coli</b> – are specific bacteria found in the faecal material of humans and other warm-blooded animals, and commonly used as an indicator of the number of pathogenic (disease causing) organisms in the water. Measured as colony forming units cfu/100 ml.
FC	<b>Faecal coliforms</b> - are bacteria found in the faecal material of humans and other warm-blooded animals. Although faecal coliform by themselves are not disease causing (pathogenic), they are an indicator of the number of pathogenic organisms in the water. Measured as colony forming units cfu/100 ml.
Greywater	<b>Wastewater</b> from baths, showers and hand basins; may also include <b>wastewater</b> from laundries. It excludes kitchen and toilet <b>wastewater</b> due to high organic loading.
I & I	Inflow & Infiltration (Ingress) - <b>Inflow</b> refers to rainwater entering via defective or inappropriate plumbing of <b>stormwater</b> to the <b>sewerage system</b> . <b>Infiltration</b> refers to groundwater entering underground infrastructure of the <b>sewerage system</b> via cracks and faulty joints.
Influent	The untreated <b>wastewater</b> or raw <b>sewage</b> coming into a <b>wastewater treatment plant</b> .
m <sup>3</sup>	<b>Cubic metre</b> – a measure of volume which is a cube of 1 m on all sides and equals 1,000 litres.
Municipal Wastewater	A mix of domestic <b>sewage</b> and trade waste. May include <b>I &amp; I</b> .
Potable Water	Water treated to drinkable quality primarily for human consumption.
Sewage	Is mainly liquid waste containing some solids produced by humans.
Sewerage System	Is the reticulated system of sewer pipes and pump stations that conveys raw wastewater to a treatment plant or disposal point.
Sludge	The solid waste material which settles out in the <b>wastewater</b> treatment process. Can also be known as biosolids and forms a fine black compost.
Stormwater	Surface water that has formed from heavy rain captured by hard surfaces (i.e. rooftops, paths, roads). The water carries sediment, oil, animal faeces, and other waste from the watershed to receiving waters.
Trade Waste	<b>Wastewater</b> from industry typically higher strength than domestic



Term	Description
	wastewater (may include toilet and kitchen wastewater).
TN	<b>Total nitrogen</b> - is the sum of total Kjeldahl nitrogen (ammonia (NH <sub>4</sub> -N), organic and reduced nitrogen) nitrate and nitrite. It can be derived by analysing for organic nitrogen compounds, free ammonia, nitrate, and nitrite individually and adding the components together. Measured in g/m or mg/L expressed as nitrogen (N).
TP	<b>Total Phosphorus</b> - is the sum of reactive and organic phosphorus. Measured in g/m <sup>3</sup> or mg/L expressed as phosphorus (P).
TSS	<b>Total Suspended Solids</b> – is the solid particles floating in water that can be retained by a fine filter. Measured in g/m <sup>3</sup> or mg/L.
Wastewater System	The system of pipes, pump stations, treatment plant, and discharge point that convey, treat, and discharge <b>wastewater</b> .
WWTP	<b>Wastewater Treatment Plant</b> – facilities designed to utilise natural biological processes to break down <b>wastewater</b> and kill off pathogens to reach levels that are suitable for discharging into the environment. Large ponds and mechanical aerators are common components of a WWTP. This can also be known as Sewage Treatment Plant (STP).