# ACTIVATED SLUDGE PROCESS

# To "Treat" Wastewater

Remove (reduce) Or "Stabilize" The Material in Wastewater

### SECONDARY TREATMENT

Biological Wastewater Treatment



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**Biological** Wastewater Treatment

Microorganisms consume organic matter from the wastewater, using oxygen for respiration



Millions of aerobic and facultative micro-organisms remove pollutants thru living and growing process

# Activated Sludge System

Air  $\rightarrow$  Provides Oxygen and Mixing





Suspended Growth, Biological Treatment

Need favorable conditions for growth and for separation from the water



Biological solids are used over and over

Growth rate produces about 0.7 lbs of biological solids per lb BOD removed











Typical Flow-Through Activated Sludge Plant

### **Biological Wastewater** Treatment

**Three Steps** 1. Transfer of Food from Wastewater to Cell.

> **Adequate Mixing Enough Detention Time**

### **Biological Wastewater Treatment**

2. Conversion of Food to New Cells and Byproducts.

> Acclimated Biomass Useable Food Supply Adequate D.O. **Proper Nutrient Balance** 100:5:1 C : N : P

### **Biological Wastewater Treatment**

3. Flocculation and Solids Removal

**Proper Mixing Proper Growth Environment** Secondary Clarification

### **Biological Wastewater Treatment**

3. Flocculation and Solids Removal

# **Must Have Controls**

**Proper Growth Environment** 

Filamentous Bacteria – Form Strings

Mixed Liquor Does Not Compact - Bulking







Organic Load = Pounds of Organics (BOD) Coming into Aeration Tank





### **OXYGEN DEMAND**

Biochemical Oxygen Demand B.O.D.

The Quantity of Oxygen Used in the Biochemical Oxidation of Organic

Material.





Best to Use a "Moving Average" to Determine the Average Impact on a Treatment System.



### **BOD Moving Average**

Calculate the 7 day moving average of pounds of BOD for 10/5 and 10/6.

Date	Pounds of BOD	10/5 2281 2777 1374 2459	<b>10/6</b> 13,525 - 2281 + 1577
9/29 9/30 10/1 10/2 10/3 10/4 10/5 10/6	2281 2777 1374 2459 960 1598 2076 1577	960 1598 2076 13,525 7 = 1932	12,821 = 1832 7 = 1832
10/7	2351		

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#### Need to Balance Organic Load (lbs BOD) With Number of Active Organisms in Treatment System



### How Much Food ? Primary Effluent BOD

Lbs/D BOD = FLOW (MGD) X 8.34 Lbs/Gal X P.E. BOD (mg/L)

F = Pounds BOD (Coming into Aeration Tank)

How is M (Microorganisms) measured?

Mixed Liquor Volatile Suspended Solids (MLVSS)

M = Pounds MLVSS (In Aeration Tank)

Mixed Liquor Suspended Solids (MLSS) and Mixed Liquor Volatile Suspended Solids (MLVSS)



Mixed Liquor Suspended Solids (MLSS) and Mixed Liquor Volatile Suspended Solids (MLVSS)





### **Determining MLSS**







### How Much Food (F) ? Pounds BOD

Lbs/D BOD =

FLOW (MGD) X 8.34 Lbs/Gal X Pri. Eff. BOD (mg/L)

How is **M** (Microorganisms) measured?

Mixed Liquor Volatile Suspended Solids (MLVSS)

M = Pounds MLVSS

### CALCULATION OF POUNDS

Pounds =

Conc. x Flow (or Volume) x 8.34 Lbs/gallon

Concentration Of STUFF In the Water Quantity Of Water The STUFF Is In

Weight X Of The Water

#### Pounds of Volatile Solids in the Aeration Tank

#### Lbs MLVSS =

Volume Aeration Tank, MG X MLVSS, mg/L X 8.34 Lbs/gal

Calculate the pounds of volatile solids in an aeration tank that has a volume of 0.471 MG and the concentration of volatile suspended solids is 1700 mg/L.

Lbs = 0.471 MG X 1700 mg/L X 8.34 lbs/gal





## Food to Microorganism Ratio

The F/M Ratio for Best Treatment Will Vary for Different Facilities
Determined by Regular Monitoring and
Comparing to Effluent Quality
Often Will Vary Seasonally

Typical Range:

Conventional Activated Sludge F:M 0.25 - 0.45

Extended Aeration Activated Sludge F:M 0.05 - 0.15

Food to Microorganism Ratio

$$\frac{F}{M} = \frac{\cancel{D}}{\cancel{D}} = \frac{Lbs \text{ of BOD}}{Lbs \text{ of MLVSS}}$$

### Calculate Often to Monitor/Control

Monthly (Minimum) Weekly (Better) Use Moving Average