

## **Domestic Wastewater Definitions from the FL Dept. of Environmental Protection**

<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wastewater/dom/domdefn.htm#Annual%20Average%20Daily%20Flow>

### **Annual Average Daily Flow:**

*Annual average daily flow (AADF)* means the total volume of wastewater flowing into a wastewater facility during any consecutive 365 days, divided by 365 and expressed in units of mgd (millions of gallons per day).

### **Collection/Transmission System:**

*Collection/transmission systems* means sewers, pipelines, conduits, pumping stations, force mains, and all other facilities used for collection and transmission of wastewater from individual service connection laterals to facilities intended for the purpose of providing treatment prior to release to the environment.

### **Commercial Wastewater:**

*Commercial wastewater* means non-toxic, non-hazardous wastewater from commercial facilities which is usually similar in composition to domestic wastewater, but which may occasionally have one or more of its constituents exceed typical domestic ranges. Included in this definition are wastewaters from commercial and institutional food service operations, commercial laundry facilities with no more than four washing machines, animal holding facilities (such as kennels, veterinary hospitals, and animal grooming facilities), and beauty salons, provided that toxic, hazardous, or industrial wastes are not introduced into the system.

### **Design Capacity:**

*Design capacity* refers to the average daily flow projected for the design year which serves as the basis for the sizing and design of the wastewater facilities. The design capacity is established by the permit applicant. The time frame associated with the design capacity (e.g., annual average daily flow, maximum monthly daily flow, three-month average daily flow) shall be specified by the permit applicant.

### **Discharge of Wastes:**

*Discharge of wastes* means the introduction or addition to waters of sewage, industrial wastes, and all other liquid, gaseous, solid, radioactive, or other substances that may pollute or tend to pollute any waters of the State.

### **Disinfection:**

*Disinfection* means the selective destruction of pathogens in wastewater effluents, reclaimed water, and domestic wastewater residuals.

### **Disposal System:**

*Disposal system* means injection wells, effluent outfalls, subsurface drain systems, and other facilities utilized for the release of effluents into the environment.

### **Domestic Wastewater:**

*Domestic wastewater* means wastewater derived principally from dwellings, business buildings, institutions, and the like; sanitary wastewater; sewage. Where wastewater from sources other than typical domestic sources (e.g., industrial sources) is combined and treated with wastes from domestic sources, the determination of whether or not the wastewater treatment plant is designated as "domestic" shall be made by the Department considering any or all of the following: wastewater residuals classification; whether wastewaters have been pretreated or contain constituents within 50-150%, by concentration, of typical domestic wastewater; and whether the permittee, when not required to provide more stringent or otherwise specific levels of treatment, can provide assurance of facility compliance with domestic wastewater treatment standards.

### **Effluent:**

*Effluent*, unless specifically stated otherwise, means water that is not reused after flowing out of any wastewater treatment facility or other works used for the purpose of treating, stabilizing, or holding wastes.

**Industrial Wastewater:**

*Industrial wastewater* means process and non-process wastewater from manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural (forestry) facilities or activities, including the runoff and leachate from areas that receive pollutants associated with industrial or commercial storage, handling or processing, and all other wastewater not otherwise defined as domestic wastewater.

**Land Application:**

*Land application* means the reuse of reclaimed water or the utilization or disposal of effluents or wastewater residuals on, above, or into the surface of the ground through spray irrigation, land spreading, or other methods.

**Monthly Average Daily Flow:**

*Monthly average daily flow* means the total volume of wastewater flowing into a wastewater facility during a calendar month, divided by the number of days in that month and expressed in mgd.

**OSTDS - On-Site Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems:**

*On-site sewage treatment and disposal systems (OSTDS)* means a system that contains a standard subsurface, filled, or mound drainfield system; an aerobic treatment unit; a graywater system tank; a septic tank; a grease interceptor; a dosing tank; a solids or effluent pump; a waterless, incinerating, or organic waste-composing toilet; or a sanitary pit privy that is installed or proposed to be installed beyond the building sewer on land of the owner or on other land to which the owner has the legal right to install a system.

**Percolation pond:**

*Percolation pond* means an artificial impoundment similar to a holding pond for which the design and operation provides for fluid losses through percolation/seepage in addition to evaporative losses.

**Permitted Capacity:**

*Permitted capacity* means the treatment capacity for which a plant is approved by Department permit expressed in units of mgd. The permit shall specify the time frame associated with the permitted capacity (e.g., annual average daily flow, maximum monthly average daily flow, three-month average daily flow).

**Pollution:**

*Pollution* means the presence in the outdoor atmosphere or waters of the state of any substances, contaminants, noise, or man-made or man-induced alteration of the chemical, physical, biological, or radiological integrity of air or water in quantities or levels which are or may be potentially harmful or injurious to human health or welfare, animal or plant life, or property, including outdoor recreation.

**POTW - Publicly Owned Treatment Works:**

*Publicly owned treatment works (POTW)* means any device or system used in the treatment, including recycling and reclamation, of domestic sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature which is owned by the State, a county, or a municipality. This definition includes sewers, pipes, or other conveyances only if they convey wastewater to a POTW providing treatment.

**Reclaimed Water:**

*Reclaimed water* means water that has received at least secondary treatment and is reused after flowing out of a wastewater treatment facility.

**Residuals:**

*Residuals* means the solid, semisolid, or liquid residue generated during the treatment of domestic wastewater. Not included are solids removed from pump stations and lift stations, septage, and screenings and grit removed from the headworks of domestic wastewater treatment facilities. Also, not included is ash generated during the incineration of residuals.

Reuse:

*Reuse* means the deliberate application of reclaimed water, in compliance with Department and District rules, for a beneficial purpose.

Septic Tank:

*Septic tank* means a watertight receptacle constructed to promote separation of solid and liquid components of wastewater to provide limited digestion of organic matter, to store solids, and to allow clarified liquid to discharge for further treatment and disposal in a soil absorption system.

Substantial Modification:

*Substantial modification* means a modification to the facility or activity which is reasonably expected to lead to a substantially different environmental impact or which involves a substantially different type of wastewater, residuals, industrial sludge treatment, reuse, or disposal system. A substantial modification includes changes in the characteristics of the effluent, reclaimed water residuals, or industrial sludge; changes to the location of the discharge; or changes to the permitted capacity of the treatment, or reuse or disposal system. A substantial modification requires filing an application for a substantial revision to a permit.

Surface Water:

*Surface water* means water upon the surface of the earth, whether contained in bounds created naturally or artificially or diffused. Water from natural springs shall be classified as surface water when it exits from the spring onto the earth's surface.

TBEL - Technology-Based Effluent Limitation:

*Technology-based effluent limitation (TBEL)* means a minimum waste treatment requirement, established by the Department, based on treatment technology. The minimum treatment requirements may be set at levels more stringent than that which is necessary to meet water quality standards of the receiving water body.

Treatment:

*Treatment* means any method, technique, or process which changes the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of wastewater and thereby reduces its potential for polluting waters of the state.

Underground Injection:

*Underground injection* means effluent disposal or reuse by well injection into underground geologic formations.

Wastewater Facility:

*Wastewater facility* means any facility which discharges wastes into waters of the State or which can reasonably be expected to be a source of water pollution and includes any or all of the following: the collection and transmission system, the wastewater treatment works, the reuse or disposal system, and the residuals management facility.

WQBEL - Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitation:

*Water quality-based effluent limitation (WQBEL)* means an effluent limitation, which may be more stringent than a technology-based effluent limitation, that has been determined necessary by the Department to ensure that water quality standards in a receiving body of water will not be violated.