

Glossary

ABS

Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene, a rigid plastic used in piping, building materials, and other products.

Absorption

A process that occurs when a substance diffuses into a liquid or solid.

Adsorption

The adhesion of a thin layer of molecules to the surfaces of solid bodies or liquids with which they are in contact.

Aggregate

Primary soil particles that cohere to each other more strongly than other surrounding particles **or** crushed rock or gravel screened to sizes for various uses as used in the rules (IDAPA 58.01.03.008.08). See *media*.

Attached-Growth Process

Configuration wherein the microorganisms responsible for treatment colonize a fixed medium. See also *suspended-growth process*.

BOD

Biological (or biochemical) oxygen demand. BOD determines the amount of substances in sewage that can be biologically broken down. Microorganisms can break down these substances, as long as oxygen is present. BOD is a chemical procedure that measures how fast biological organisms in a sample of water use up oxygen.

CAP

Corrective action plan. If an O&M entity's annual report identifies malfunctioning system rates of 10% or more, DEQ will suspend the O&M and require that the O&M entity, the affected homeowners, and the service provider, in cooperation with the local Health District, enter into a CAP. The CAP should establish the time frame to return the non-complying systems to proper operation. The suspension will remain in effect until the malfunctioning system rate is below 10%.

CBOD₅

Refers to the 5-day test for carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand, which measures how much oxygen wastewater uses. CBOD₅ measures the rate of oxygen use by living organisms (bacteria) decomposing the organic portion of a waste in a sample of water. CBOD₅ is measured in mg/L.

Component	A subsection of a treatment train or system.
Cu	Coefficient of uniformity. The ratio of diameters from a soil sieve analysis. The ratio divides the diameter corresponding to the 60% finer value by that diameter corresponding to the 10% finer value.
DEQ	Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. The state agency responsible for enforcing the Individual/Subsurface Sewage Disposal Rules (IDAPA 58.01.03).
Distal Pressure	Design and operational parameter measured at the furthest point from the dosing device in a pressurized system; typically expressed in vertical feet of head.
Effluent	The outflowing water from a wastewater process. Processes range from clarification in a septic tank to filtrate from a microfiltration membrane.
ET	evapotranspiration
ETPS	extended treatment package system
HDPE	high-density polyethylene
HRT	hydraulic residence time
Hydraulic conductivity	The coefficient of permeability; a property of the soil media describing how easily water flows through the soil matrix.
IDAPA	A numbering designation for all administrative rules in Idaho promulgated in accordance with the Idaho Administrative Procedures act.
Infiltration	The process by which water enters the soil.
Media	Solid material that can be described by shape, dimensions, surface area, void space, and application. See <i>aggregate</i> .

Media, Distribution

Material used to provide void space (usually in a dispersal component) through which effluent flows and is stored prior to infiltration (for example, washed stone, aggregate, polystyrene blocks, chambers, etc.).

NOV

notice of violation

NPDES

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

O&M

operations and maintenance

Percolation

The movement and filtering of water through the soil

Permeability

The measure of a porous media to transmit water.

PF

peaking factor

PVC

polyvinyl chloride

SI

International System of Units (from the French *le Système International d'Unités*)

Soil texture

A soil property that describes the relative proportions of different grain sizes of mineral particles. The fine fraction, composed of sand, silt, and clay, are used exclusively.

Suspended-growth process

Configuration wherein the microorganisms responsible for treatment are maintained in suspension within a liquid.

Total Kjeldahl nitrogen

The total mass of a solution's organic and ammonia nitrogen present.

Total nitrogen

The total mass of a solution's organic nitrogen, ammonia, nitrite, and nitrate.

Total suspended solids

The portion of the total solids on a filter with a specified pore size, measured after being dried at a specified temperature (105 °C).

References

Otis, R.J. 1981. Design of Pressure Distribution Networks for Septic-Tank Absorption Systems. Small Scale Waste Management Project Publication #9.6. University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.

Siegrist, R.L., D.L. Anderson, and J.C. Converse. 1984. Commercial wastewater on-site treatment and disposal. On-site Wastewater Treatment, Proceedings of the 4th National Symposium on Individual and Small Community Sewage Systems. ASAE, St. Joseph, MI, pp 210-229.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 1980. Design Manual: Onsite Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems. Table 4-3, page 56.