

Glossary

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
Abatement	The reduction of pollution emissions
Absorption	The mixing of one liquid, solid, or gas into another mixture, for example when sugar dissolves into Kool-Aid.
Activated sludge	This is involved in secondary wastewater treatment. This type of sludge is the residue from the mixing and aerating of sewage and bacteria
Advanced wastewater treatment	Treatment beyond secondary and primary treatment. This typically removes phosphorous and nitrogen.
Aeration	The process of exposing a substance to air or mixing it to promote air and bubbles.
Balanced Budget	When expenses and revenues are equal
Biological oxidation	This is a process which happens in activated sludge. Bacteria and microorganisms eat the organic matter and pollutants in the sludge.
BOD (Biochemical oxygen demand)	This is a measure of oxygen needed to breakdown organic matter in the wastewater. If the number is high, it means there is a high degree of pollution and much aeration is needed to breakdown the substances.
Bond	A promise to pay back borrowed money on a certain date
Bond ordinance	A law which approves the sale of government bonds
Budget	A plan for spending which balances revenues and expenses over a certain amount of time
Budget Cycle	A process in which government prepares and implements a spending plan
Deposition	Deposits in water or soil which accumulate as piles. This can happen when water is released with these deposits which then accumulate in the soil in piles or clumps of deposits.
Dissolved oxygen	Dissolved oxygen is needed in water for aquatic animals to exist and thrive.
Dissolved solids	Solids of organic and inorganic material which are in water. At a high level of dissolved solids, the water should not be used
Effluent	Wastewater before or after treatment. The term refers to sewage or dissolved solids in waters.

G.O. Bond	General obligation bond: a bond guaranteed by the ability of the issuing government to levy and collect taxes.
Groundwater	Water beneath the surface of the Earth used to supply wells and springs
Leaching	When contaminants flow to areas in which they contaminate surface water. For example, leaching occurs when substances put into the soil for farming can flow into groundwater.
Limited pledge bond	See revenue bond
Mandate	A requirement passed down from a higher level of government to a lower level of government.
Mixed liquor	The mixture of water and activated sludge within an aeration tank while undergoing treatment.
Oxidation	Oxygen being added to a mixture, such as sewage. The process promotes the breakdown of some chemicals.
Oxidation pond	A body within which liquid waste is biological oxidation is occurring, the process when bacteria and microorganisms decompose solid matter.
Potable water	Water safe for drinking and cooking
Primary wastewater treatment	The process that removes materials that will float or settle. This process removes about 30% of the BOD.
Revenue Bond	A bond guaranteed by the sells of the project for which the bond was issued; this is also called a 'limited pledge bond' since there is a condition on the repayment of the bond.
Secondary wastewater treatment	The time in the process within which bacteria consume the waste. This process removes about 90% of the total BOD.
Sedimentation	Using gravity to force solids to sink during wastewater treatment
Septic tank	An underground storage tank to which sewage from the home is transferred; the liquid sewage is broken down by bacteria and the sludge sinks. The liquid flows into an open area. The sludge must be pumped out.
Sequencing batch reactor	A process for treating sludge which uses several tanks to treat so that the aeration and sedimentation processes may occur. This may all also happen in one tank.
Settling tank	A tank which holds wastewater until particles sink to the bottom to be partitioned out of the mixture.
Sewage lagoon	Similar to an oxidation pond. See oxidation pond.
Sludge	A semisolid residue from air or water treatment. It is potentially hazardous.
Solute	A substance which is dissolved onto another substance
Solvent	Liquid that dissolves one or more substances
Sump	A place where liquid runoff is collected.

Surface water	Water open to the atmosphere. This term also includes wells to which surface water has access.
Suspended solids	Small particles that float or are suspended, which resist convention removal methods.
Tertiary wastewater treatment	A treatment beyond primary and secondary which removes most of the BOD.

This glossary depended upon the following resources:

WORLD BANK GROUP, "Pollution Prevention Abatement Handbook, 441-457, (July 1998). Their glossary was based from the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Communications and Public Affairs, "Glossary of Environmental Terms and Acronym List, 19K-1002 (Washington, D.C., December 1989).

Bland, Robert L and Irene S. Rubin, *Budgeting, a Guide for Local Governments*, International City/County Management Association (ICMA), 1997:227-233.