



Pretreatment Facts

DID YOU KNOW...?

The Pretreatment Program is mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued to the wastewater treatment plants.

The Pretreatment Program protects the integrity of the Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) by fulfilling four objectives:

- Preventing the introduction of pollutants into the POTW which will interfere with the operation of a POTW including interference with its use or disposal of municipal sludge;
- Preventing the introduction of pollutants into POTWs which will pass through the treatment works and enter stream waters;
- Reducing the risk of exposure of workers to chemical hazards; and
- Improving opportunities to recycle and reclaim municipal and industrial wastewaters and sludge.

The Pretreatment Program provides a service to the community by allowing industry to discharge pretreated wastewater, to be further treated at the wastewater treatment plants, in lieu of meeting water quality regulations required for direct dischargers to the waters of the state.

The Pretreatment Program's implementation is through control mechanisms; a permit for significant industrial users or through Best Management Practices.

The Pretreatment Program benefits the community by protecting us all-our collection system, our treatment plants, and our environment.