

# DEFINITIONS

**RULES FOR THE MAINTENANCE, PROTECTION, USE AND OPERATION OF THE SEWERAGE SYSTEM IN THE ERIE COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT, ERIE COUNTY, OHIO.**

**DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of these Rules, the following words, terms and phrases shall have the meaning hereinafter respectively ascribed to them.

ACTUAL COST TO COUNTY - All costs incurred by the County to perform a particular service including cost of all direct labor and supervision, materials, transportation, equipment rental, outside services, testing fees, and an administrative cost recovery charge of ten percent (10%) applied to direct labor costs.

APPLICANT - Owner of the premises to be serviced by a connection to the sewerage system or a person, firm or corporation acting on behalf of such owner.

BIOCHEMICAL OXYGEN DEMAND - The quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure, as prescribed in "Standard Methods," in five (5) days at 20°C, expressed in milligrams per liter (mg/l).

BUILDING DRAIN - That part of the lowest piping of a wastewater drainage system which receives the discharge from soil, waste, and other drainage pipes inside the walls of a building and conveys it to a point of connection with the building sewer approximately three to five feet (3-5') beyond the foundation wall of the building or structure served.

BUILDING SEWER - That part of the wastewater drainage system which extends from the end of the building drain and conveys its discharge to the public sewer or other place of disposal. For the purposes of these Rules, the terms "sewer lateral" and "service line" are interchangeable with "building sewer."

CHEMICAL OXYGEN DEMAND (COD) - A measure of the oxygen-consuming capacity of organic matter present in water or wastewater expressed from an oxidation reduction procedure.

CONNECTION CHARGE - The amount paid by the owner of each premise connected to the sewerage system to cover the cost of inspection of the construction of the service line (building sewer).

COUNTY - Erie County, Ohio acting through its duly authorized officials and employees.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS - The Board of County Commissioners of Erie County, Ohio.

COUNTY AGENT - Erie County, Ohio acting through its duly authorized officials and employees representing the Erie County Department of Environmental Services under the direction and control of the Sanitary Engineer.

## **DEFINITIONS (Continued)**

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - The Erie County Department of Environmental Services acting through its duly authorized officials and employees under the directions and control of the Sanitary Engineer.

DISTRICT - The Erie County Sewer District as established by the County Commissioners pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapter 6117, as it now exists or hereafter may be enlarged or diminished by the County.

EASEMENT - An acquired legal right for the specific use of land owned by others.

ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER - Person in responsible charge of supervising the operation of the Department of Environmental Services - Laboratory Division and overseeing various Department of Environmental Services programs dealing with water, wastewater collection, wastewater treatment and solid waste disposal.

FLOATABLE OIL - Oil, fat or grease in a physical state such that it will separate by gravity from wastewater by treatment in an approved pretreatment facility. A wastewater shall be considered free of floatable fat if it is properly pretreated and the wastewater does not interfere with the collection system.

GARBAGE - The animal and vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and serving of foods.

INDUSTRIAL/COMMERICAL USER - Any source or nondomestic discharge that introduces pollutants to the POTW and is regulated by Section 307, B, C and D of the Clean Water Act.

INDUSTRIAL WASTES - The wastewater from industrial process, trade or business as distinct from domestic sanitary wastes.

METERED WATER CONSUMPTION - The normal basis for determining sewer use charges.

NORMAL DOMESTIC WASTES - Wastes which are characterized by an average theoretical loading of 220 mg/l BOD or 450 mg/l COD, 220 mg/l SS and 8 mg/l phosphorus (normal domestic sewage).

NPDES PERMIT - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit as issued by Ohio Environmental Protection Agency under authorization issued by the U.S. EPA, Region V.

OEPA - The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE COSTS - Those costs, including labor, materials, supplies, equipment accessories, and appurtenances, required to operate the facilities, keep the facilities in operating condition, and maintain the capacity and performance during the useful life of the treatment works for which the works were designed and constructed.

## **DEFINITIONS (Continued)**

pH - The logarithm of the reciprocal of hydrogen ion concentration. The concentration of hydrogen ions, in moles, per liter of solution.

PHOSPHORUS - The total phosphorus content of a sample including all of the orthophosphates and condensed phosphates, both soluble and insoluble, organic and inorganic species, and referred to in "Standard Methods" as total phosphorus.

POTW (Publicly Owned Treatment Works) - Any wastewater treatment facility and its tributary collection system, owned and operated by Erie County or other municipality under agreement with Erie County.

PREMISES - Land and the building or structures located thereon.

PRETREATMENT - The reduction of the amount of pollutants, the elimination of pollutants, or the alteration of the nature of pollutant properties in wastewater prior to or in lieu of discharging or otherwise introducing such pollutants into a POTW.

PROCESS WASTEWATER (sometimes termed "Process Water") - Any water which during manufacturing or processing comes into direct contact with or results from the production or use of any raw material, intermediate product, finished product, by-product, or waste product.

PROPERLY SHREDDED GARBAGE - The wastes from the preparation, cooking and dispensing of food that have been shredded to such a degree that all particles will be carried freely under the flow conditions normally prevailing in public sewers, with no particle greater than one-half inch (½") (1.27 centimeters) in any dimension.

PROPERTY OWNER - Person, firm or corporation in whose name the property served is held and who will ultimately be responsible for payment of bills for service rendered.

PUBLIC SEWER - A common sewer controlled by a governmental agency or public utility.

REPLACEMENT - Expenditures for obtaining and installing equipment, accessories or appurtenances during the useful life of the treatment works necessary to maintain the capacity and performance for which they were designed and constructed. Replacement is an operating expense which maintains capacity or performance, as opposed to capital cost, which improves or expands capacity or performance of the treatment works. Replacement expense is directly related to the decline in worth of operating components because of day-to-day usage in providing service and inversely related to the level of daily maintenance.

SANITARY ENGINEER - The County Sanitary Engineer of Erie County, Ohio or his authorized agent or representative.

## **DEFINITIONS (Continued)**

**SANITARY SEWER** - A sewer that carries liquid and water-carried wastes from residences, commercial buildings, industrial plants and institutions together with minor quantities of ground, storm and surface waters that are not admitted intentionally.

**SANITARY WASTES** - The combination of liquid and water-carried wastes discharged from toilet and other sanitary plumbing facilities.

**SEPTAGE WASTE** - The waste material, composed of liquids and solids, which results from the anaerobic decomposition of sanitary wastes in a septic tank.

**SERVICE CONNECTION** - The physical connection of the sewer users building sewer to the County's sewerage system.

**SERVICE LINE** - The sanitary sewer extending between the sewer user's building drain and the County's sewerage system. Also referred to as "sewer lateral" and "building sewer."

**SEWAGE** - The spent water of a community. The preferred term is "wastewater."

**SEWER** - A pipe or conduit that carries wastewater or drainage water.

**SEWERAGE SYSTEM** - All facilities employed in the collection, pumping, treatment and disposal of wastewater. (See also "TREATMENT WORKS")

**SLUG** - Any pollutant, including oxygen demanding pollutants (BOD, etc.) released in a discharge at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which will cause interference with the POTW.

**SPECIFICATIONS** - The Department Of Environmental Services Standard Specifications and Drawings in force on the effective date of adoption of these Rules, or as thereafter amended.

**STORM DRAIN** (sometimes termed "STORM SEWER") - A drain or sewer for conveying water, ground water, subsurface water or unpolluted water from any source.

**SUPERINTENDENT** - The Superintendent of the County POTW or Wastewater Collection Division.

**SUSPENDED SOLIDS** - Total suspended matter that either floats on the surface of, or is in suspension in, water, wastewater or other liquids and that is removable by laboratory filtering as prescribed in "Standard Methods" and referred to as filterable residue.

## **DEFINITIONS (Continued)**

**TREATMENT WORKS** - Any and all devices and system used in the storage, treatment, recycling and reclamation of municipal sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature, or necessary to recycle or reuse water at the most economical cost over the useful life of the works, including interceptor sewers, outfall sewers, sewage collection systems, pumping, power and other equipment appurtenances; extensions, improvements, remodeling, additions and alterations thereof; elements essential to provide a reliable recycled supply such as standby treatment units and clear well facilities; and any works, including site acquisition of the land that will be an integral part of the treatment process or is used for ultimate disposal of residues resulting from such treatment; or any other method or system for preventing, abating, reducing, storing, treating, separating, or disposing of municipal wastes, including stormwater runoff or industrial waste, including waste in combined storm water and sanitary sewer systems.

**UNPOLLUTED WATER** - Water of quality equal to or better than the effluent criteria in effect or water that would not cause violation of receiving water quality standards and would not be benefited by discharge to the sanitary sewers and wastewater treatment facilities provided.

**USER CHARGE** - That amount paid by each premise connected to the treatment works proportionate to the service provided. This charge shall cover all operations, maintenance and replacement costs for the facilities.

**WASTEWATER** - The spent water of a community. From the standpoint of source, it may be a combination of the liquid and water-carried wastes from residences, commercial buildings, industrial plants and institutions together with any ground water, surface water and storm water that may be present.

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT** - An arrangement of devices and structures for treating wastewater, industrial wastes and sludge. Sometimes used as synonymous with "WASTE TREATMENT PLANT" OR "WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT."