

# Wastewater Treatment Plant

A wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) or wastewater treatment works is an industrial structure designed to remove biological or chemical waste from water, thereby permitting the treated water to be used for other purposes. The functions of wastewater plants include:

- Agricultural wastewater treatment – treatment and disposal of liquid animal waste, pesticide residues etc. from agriculture.
- Sewage treatment – treatment and disposal of human waste, and other household waste like liquids from toilets, baths, showers, kitchens and sinks.
- Industrial wastewater treatment – the treatment of wet wastes from the manufacturing industry and commerce including mining, quarrying and heavy industries.

It is increasingly likely that a single facility will serve to treat water for all kinds of waste products. However, certain methods, such as biodegradation, has been found to be less effective for wastewater that includes toxic chemicals found in industrial wastewater.

Frank R Spellman, Handbook of Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations, Second Edition (2008)