

**TITLE 252. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
CHAPTER 621. NON-INDUSTRIAL DISCHARGING AND PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY
LAGOONS**

SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

252:621-1-2. Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this Chapter, shall have the following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Artificial membrane liner" means a manufactured liner material composed of plastics, resins or other flexible materials, which is designed and manufactured to be used to control the seepage or release of waste or wastewater through the liner material.

"Berm" means a man-made barrier designed to control wastewater and/or stormwater.

"Biosolids" means primarily organically treated wastewater materials from municipal wastewater treatment plants that are suitable for recycling as amendments. This term is within the meaning of "sludge" referenced in 27A O.S. § 2-6-101(11). Biosolids are divided into the following classes:

- (A) Class A Biosolids meets the pathogen reduction requirements of 40 CFR § 503.32 (a);
- (B) Class B Biosolids meets the pathogen reduction requirements of 40 CFR § 503.32 (b).

"Board" means the Environmental Quality Board.

"Bypass" means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility.

"Cell" means a single wastewater lagoon or a part of a multiple wastewater lagoon system that shares a dike with another lagoon area.

"DEQ" means the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality.

"Detention time" means the theoretical time required to displace the contents of a tank or treatment unit at a given rate of flow (volume divided by rate of flow). Also called "retention time".

"Dike" or "Embankment" means a bank, usually composed of earth, which is constructed to control or confine wastewater within a lagoon.

"Discharge" means any release by leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, dumping, escaping, seeping, leaching or other means of release of wastes or wastewater into any waters of the state or into or on any location where they may enter waters of the state.

"Discharge point" or "outfall" means the point at which wastes or wastewater enters waters of the state or become waters of the state.

"Discharging lagoon" means any lagoon which has a permitted point source discharge to "waters of the state".

"Engineer" means a person who designed the sewage or wastewater treatment works and who conceived, developed, executed or supervised the preparation of the plan documents. Said person shall be licensed in the State of Oklahoma to practice engineering and shall be a registered professional engineer or a firm holding a valid certificate of authorization from the Oklahoma Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.

"EPA" means the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

"Executive Director" or "Director" means the Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality.

"Freeboard" means the vertical distance from the surface water level in the lagoon to a point which is even with the top of the dike.

"Holding capacity" means the volume of space in a lagoon which is calculated assuming a minimum freeboard of three (3) feet, or calculated by the freeboard specified in a permit issued or specific directive given by the Department.

"Lagoon" means a lined basin, whether with soil or with other DEQ approved material, either below or above ground level which is designed, maintained and/or operated to store, recycle, treat and/or dispose of municipal/domestic wastewater or stormwater, and shall include but is not limited to man-made topographic depressions, excavations, basins, diked areas, impoundments, pits and ponds.

"Land application" means the application of treated wastewater to a vegetated land surface with the applied wastewater being further treated as it flows through the plant-soil matrix.

"Liner" means a barrier which is designed, constructed and installed in a lagoon and which has appropriate chemical and physical properties to ensure that such structures do not fail to control the seepage or release of waste and wastewater from the lagoon.

"Mean" means the calculated arithmetic average of a set of numerical data.

"NRCS" means the Natural Resource Conservation Service.

"OAC" means Oklahoma Administrative Code.

"Oklahoma's Water Quality Standards" means the rules promulgated by the ~~Oklahoma Water Resources Board~~ DEQ and contained in OAC ~~785:45~~ 252:730 which classify waters of the state, designate beneficial uses for which the various waters of the State shall be maintained and protected, and prescribe the water quality standards required to sustain designated uses.

"Operator" means the person responsible for the maintenance and operation of a wastewater treatment system or wastewater treatment works and responsible for keeping any required records and providing reports to the Department.

"Person" means any individual, company, corporation, government agency, municipality, or any other entity whatsoever.

"Point source" shall have the meaning assigned to that term in OAC 252:606.

"Receiving water" means that portion of any waters of the state into which wastes are or may be released, leached, or discharged. See also definition of "waters of the state".

"Sanitary wastewater" means and includes but is not limited to wastewater from drinking fountains, showers, toilets, lavatories, and kitchens.

"Septic" means bacterial activity in the absence of oxygen. This condition may cause enhancement of the growth of anaerobic bacteria and production of unpleasant odors.

"Total retention lagoon" means a lagoon designed and constructed to contain all wastewater without a discharge structure, in any and all types of weather conditions.

"Toxic substances" means substances regulated by the Department to protect beneficial uses of waters of the state, human health, or the environment.