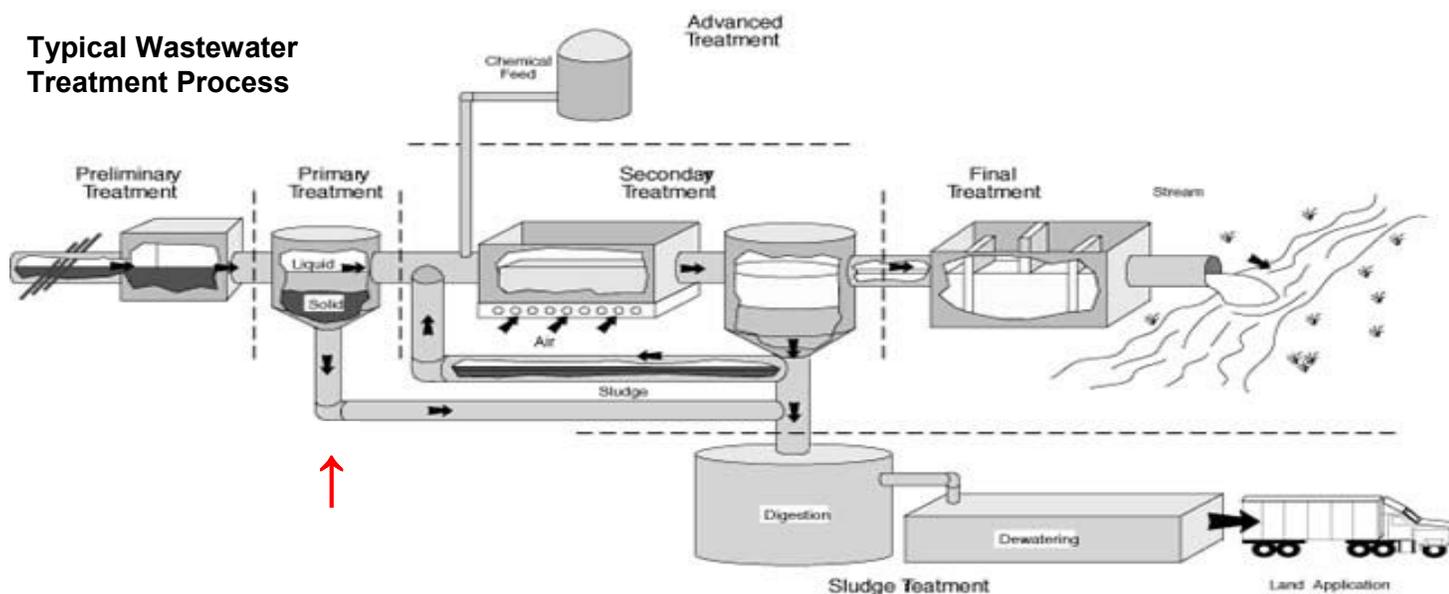


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Primary Treatment: Sedimentation or Clarification



Primary treatment is the first major treatment process in a wastewater treatment facility, used for the purpose of sedimentation or clarification. The **primary sedimentation tank** (the first settling tank) is used for the removal of settleable solids through which wastewater is passed in a treatment works, sometimes called a **primary clarifier**. Primary treatment removes a substantial amount of suspended matter with little or no colloidal and dissolved matter.

Solids collected through primary treatment, called **primary sludge**, is generally pumped to a digester for treatment. The liquid portion resulting from primary treatment is pumped to secondary treatment processes.

Next week: Secondary Treatment