

DIFFERENT TYPES OF WATER

Potable Water - drinking water that meets or exceeds state and federal standards for human consumption.

Purified Water - water that has passed through multiple proven treatment processes and meets drinking water standards.

Secondary (or Raw) Water - surface or groundwater that has not been treated to drinking water standards.

Reclaimed Water - domestic wastewater that has been cleaned for additional uses.

***Recommendation: Do not refer to this type of water as wastewater or sewage.**

Wastewater – used water from a community or industry. ***Recommendation: Use “wastewater” instead of “sewage.”**

TECHNICAL TERMS FOR WATER REUSE

De facto Reuse - when water intakes draw raw water supplies downstream from discharges of reclaimed water.

Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) - involves the use of an environmental system such as a river, reservoir or groundwater basin, before the water is additionally purified to meet drinking water standards.

Non-Potable Reuse - water that does not meet drinking water standards but is safe for irrigation.

Type I Reuse - reclaimed water treated for irrigation and other uses where human contact is likely.

PURIFICATION TECHNOLOGY

Advanced Water Purification (AWP) - a process that produces high-quality drinking water from reclaimed water using an advanced cleaning process. The process may use microfiltration, reverse osmosis and ultraviolet oxidation to remove salts, minerals, personal care products (PCPs), PFAS, pharmaceuticals and biological contaminants.

Brine - a highly concentrated salt solution that is the byproduct of some water cleaning processes such as reverse osmosis.

Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) - uses the mechanism of adsorption (sticking of particles) for removing organics and trace chemicals from water.

Reverse Osmosis - a method of removing dissolved salts and other constituents from water by applying pressure to force the water through a semi-permeable membrane that captures dissolved materials.