



**CDM**

**1000 Friends of Florida  
Presentation on May 12, 2005**  
Presenter: Kart Vaith/CDM  
[vaithk@cdm.com](mailto:vaithk@cdm.com)

The image features a collage of four photographs related to wastewater treatment. The top-left photo shows a worker in a hard hat and safety vest near industrial equipment. The top-right photo shows a large circular tank with a white pipe. The bottom-left photo shows a walkway with railings overlooking a treatment basin. The bottom-right photo shows a control room with a computer monitor displaying a map or data. The CDM logo is in the top left corner.

**Wastewater Treatment can be really  
simple and it is in all our control**

**“Quit Producing it (and we’ll find ways to quit  
treating and getting rid of it)”**

**QUOTE AT MANY WASTEWATER OPERATOR  
TRAINING SCHOOLS**

## Wastewater treatment plant effluent has only two places to go: surface water and/or groundwater

- ◆ What we do with the treated wastewater defines what's needed for treatment
  - ◆ Groundwater Discharges:
    - Land Application (slow rate)
      - Reuse, etc.
    - Land Application (high rate)
      - Rapid infiltration basins
      - Exfiltration trenches, etc.
    - Injection
  - ◆ Surface Water Discharges
    - Wetlands Treatment Systems
    - Into surface water bodies
- ◆ Biosolids Treatment requirements are defined similarly, and are not considered in this presentation

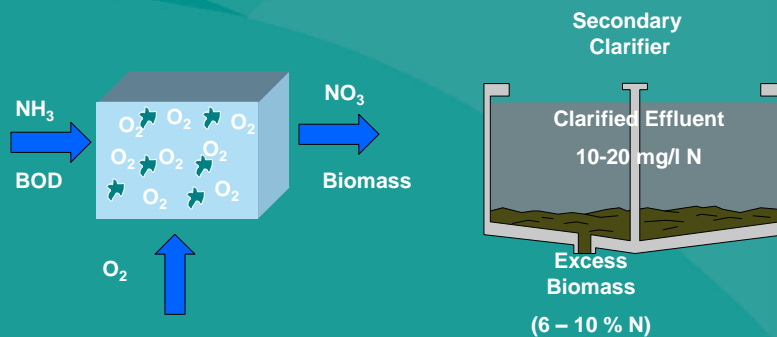
## Wastewater disposal application rates and effluent parameter limits are dictated by stringent FDEP regulations

Disposal Method	Limiting Parameters (key parameters from FDEP regulations)
Ground Water Discharge with slow rate land application	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Agronomic uptake rates</li><li>2. Groundwater constraints</li></ol>
Ground Water Discharge with rapid rate land application	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Groundwater constraints</li></ol>
Injection (Class I or V)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Groundwater constraints</li></ol>
Surface water discharges	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Receiving water characteristics</li></ol>

## Wastewater Treatment technologies must consider effluent disposal needs

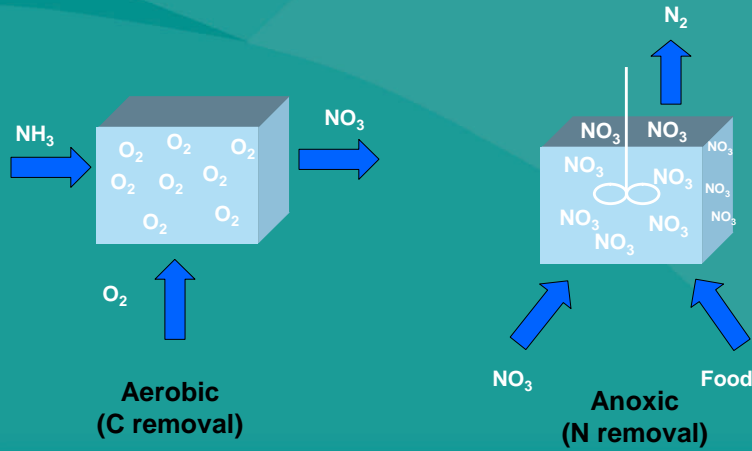
Reuse	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Too much nitrogen removal will result in farmer/homeowner adding fertilizer</li> <li>2. Some TN/TP limits are appropriate</li> </ol>
Class V Injection	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Need to meet more stringent criteria</li> <li>2. Drinking water limits may apply</li> </ol>
Class I Injection	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Less stringent criteria than Class V</li> </ol>
Wetlands Disposal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Need to reduce TN below 2-3 mg/L moot due to bird/animal habitat and algae</li> </ol>

## Conventional Wastewater Treatment will meet reasonable effluent parameters of 20/20/10\*



\* Wastewater effluent concentrations are reported as BOD/TSS/N/P

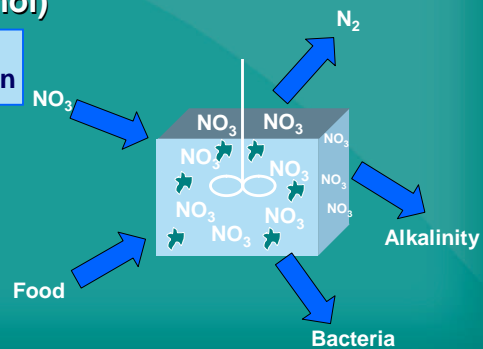
## Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR) wastewater treatment will remove a high percentage of total nitrogen



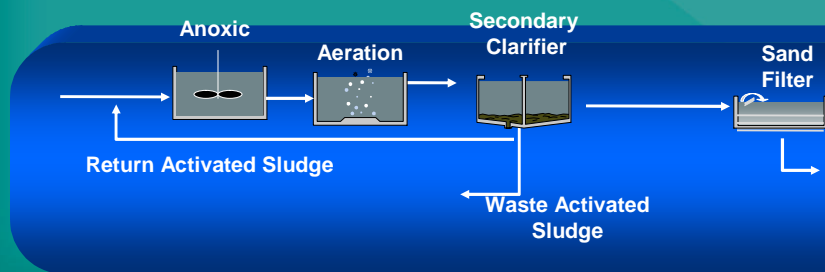
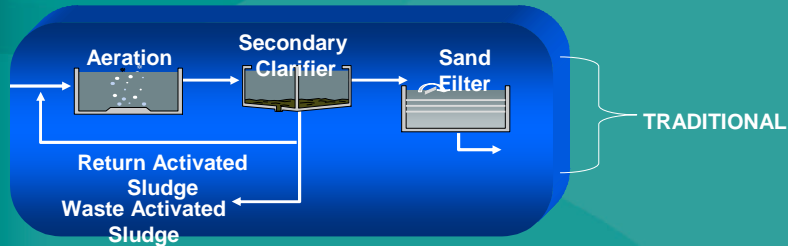
## Environmental Conditions For Denitrification must be Created for Nitrogen Removal

- ◆ Denitrifying (facultative heterotrophic) bacteria
- ◆ Food (BOD or methanol)
- ◆ Nitrate
- ◆ No oxygen

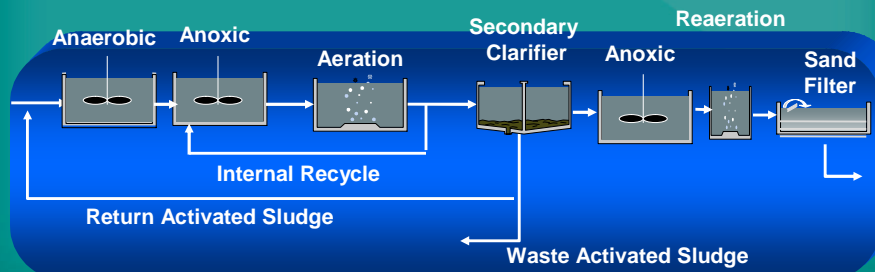
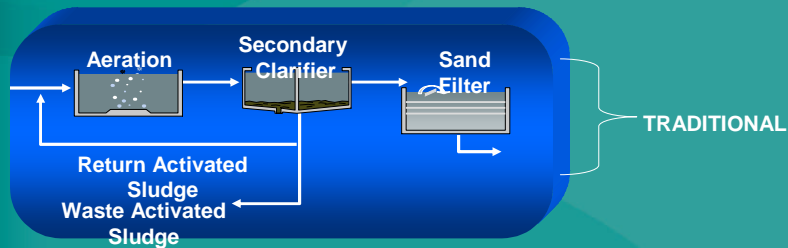
**Anoxic Condition**



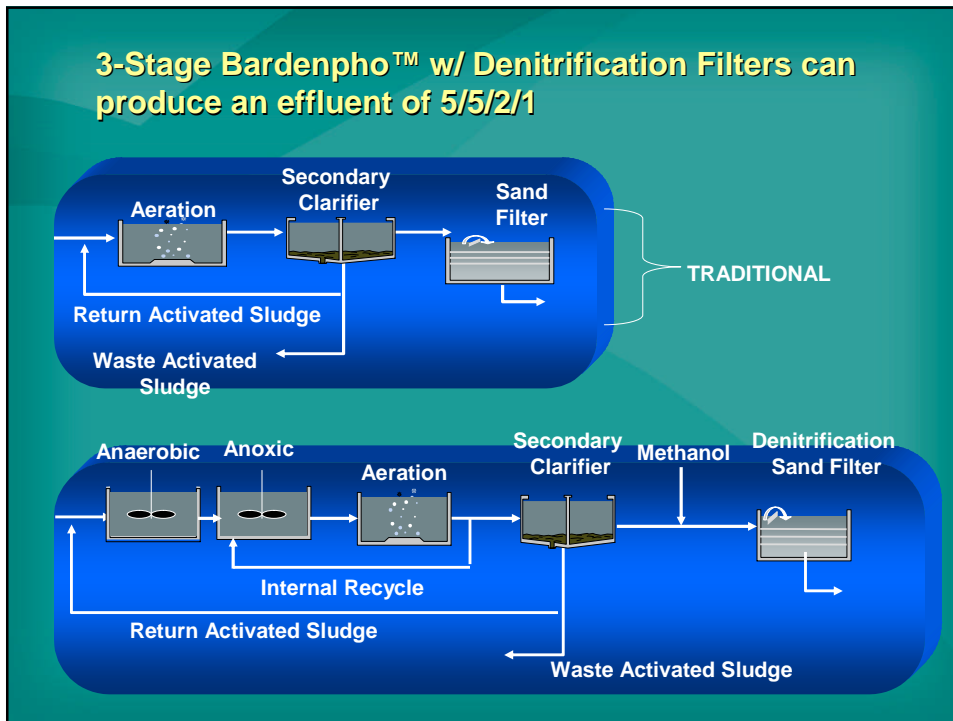
## Modified Ludzack-Ettinger (MLE) can meet limits of 5/5/6



## 5-Stage Bardenpho™ can produce effluent parameters of 5/5/3/1



### 3-Stage Bardenpho™ w/ Denitrification Filters can produce an effluent of 5/5/2/1



### Choosing the right technology for implementation is critical to manage utility rates

Treatment Method	Effluent Parameters	Approximate Cost for Liquid Treatment Train (Solids Handling will cost more)
Conventional	20/20/10 +/-	Approximately \$60 million for 20 mgd
MLE with filtration	5/5/6 +/-	Approximately \$90 million for 20 mgd
Bardenpho without filtration	5/5/3/1 +/-	Approximately \$110 million for 20 mgd
Bardenpho with filtration	5/5/2/1 +/-	Approximately \$130 million for 20 mgd

**In conclusion, planning to meet effluent limits will drive level of treatment, but there are limits**

- ◆ Treating to the appropriate level is important, difficult to treat better than 5/5/2
- ◆ Over treating can result in additional costs for no benefit:
  - ◆ Treating with a nutrient removal process and then disposing the effluent through reuse may require fertilizer addition
- ◆ Determining the desired effluent level of BOD, TSS, TN, and TP (if applicable) will allow cost optimization for the ratepayers