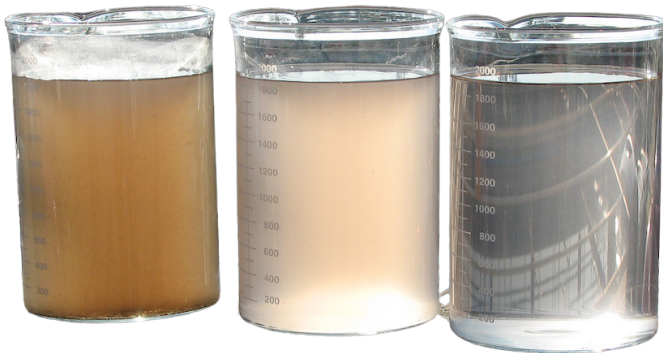


OC San Wastewater Treatment Process

Wastewater enters our plant through pipes. OC San checks the **temperature, pH, and flow**. Once the wastewater enters our plant, the treatment process begins.

Preliminary Treatment

In the first step, the dirt and materials begin to be separated from the water. **Bar screens** trap larger items from the sewage like rags. The bar screens make sure large items don't pass through. Small items like egg shells or coffee grounds are trapped by a large tank, called a **grit chamber**.



Primary Treatment

During the second step, solids are separated from the water. The solids settle, and oil floats to the top and is skimmed off and sent to the **digesters**. The water then continues to secondary treatment.

Secondary Treatment

And in the final step of treatment at OC San, activated sludge and oxygen work together to remove the rest of the bacteria still left behind in the water. Then, the water is recycled by going through the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS) or sent to the ocean.

GWRS

OC San supplies the Orange County Water District with **130 million gallons a day** of treated wastewater for the **GWRS** where the flow undergoes additional treatment. The GWRS produces enough new water for nearly 850,000 residents in north and central Orange County.