

Water Words

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Lagoon:

1. A shallow pond where sunlight, bacterial action, and oxygen work to purify wastewater, also used for storage of wastewater. 2. A shallow body of water often separated from the sea by coral reefs or sandbars.

Land application:

Discharge of wastewater onto the ground for treatment or reuse.

Landfill:

A waste management unit at which waste is discharged in or on land for disposal; it does not include surface impoundment or land treatment.

Land retirement:

The reduction or elimination of irrigation, or land retired from agricultural production.

Langelier Index (LI):

An index reflecting the equilibrium pH of a water with respect to calcium and alkalinity; used in stabilizing water to control both corrosion and scale deposition.

Laundering weir:

Sedimentation basin overflow weir.

Leachate:

Any liquid fluid, formed by the drainage of liquids from waste or by the percolation or flow of liquid through waste. It includes any constituents extracted from the waste and dissolved or suspended in the fluid.

Leachate collection system:

A system that gathers leachate and pumps it to the surface for treatment.

Leaching:

The process by which soluble constituents are dissolved and filtered through the soil by a percolating fluid. (See Leachate)

Limnology:

The study of the physical, chemical, hydrological, and biological aspects of fresh water bodies.

Lindane:

A pesticide that causes adverse health effects when present in domestic water supplies and is toxic to freshwater fish and aquatic life.

Liner:

1. A relatively impermeable barrier designed to keep leachate inside a landfill. Liner materials include plastic and dense clay. 2. An insert or sleeve for sewer pipes to prevent leakage or infiltration.

Litigate:

To bring a dispute or claim before a court of law for decision or settlement.

Littoral zone:

1. That portion of a body of fresh water extending from the shoreline lakeward to the limit of occupancy of rooted plants. 2. A strip of land along the shoreline between the high and low water levels.

Low Impact Development (LID):

Storm water management practices in land development conducted to minimize impacts on the natural environment. Low Impact Development techniques include conserving natural systems and hydrologic functions by managing rainfall at the source using design techniques that infiltrate, filter, store, evaporate, and detain runoff.