

Headworks

The headworks is the first line of defense against the onslaught of materials flowing into the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The headworks is a very important component of the wastewater plant because it removes items that can't be processed by chemical or biological means. The waste removed at the headworks is dewatered, then put into a compactor and disposed of at a landfill.

At the headworks, incoming sewage passes through a series of screens that remove inorganic materials from the wastewater stream, allowing the liquids and organic materials to continue flowing through to the rest of the treatment plant. The system consists of four channels with different types of screens. The manual screen has approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ " openings that capture large or bulky items. Other screens include a cylindrical rotating drum screen with a smaller opening, a continuous traveling screen constructed of stainless steel with even smaller openings, and a new screen for grit removal.

The headworks structure was enclosed during the Plant upgrade to assist with odor control, and connected to the SCADA system to allow monitoring via computer. Addition of the grit removal process is particularly desirable because grit buildup in the digester or aeration basins reduces the overall capacity and efficiency of the downstream treatment processes.

For an overall description of the Treatment Plant processes, please see the *Liquid Treatment Process* and *Biosolids Treatment Process* pages. For an overall description of the Treatment Plant Upgrade, please see the *Improving the WWTP* page.