

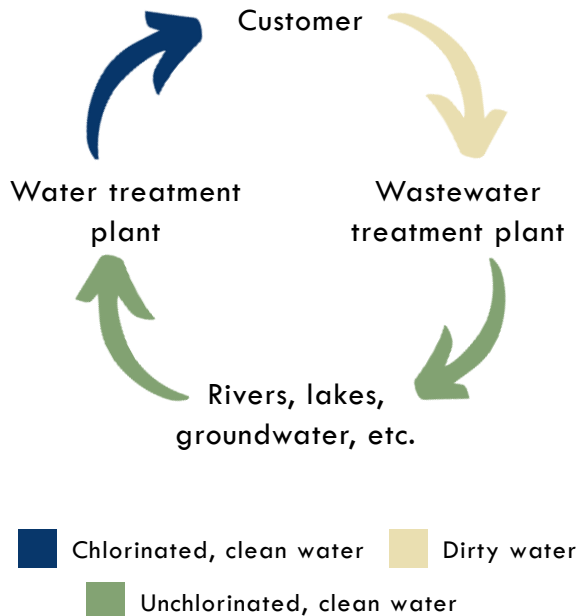
## WATER'S PURIFICATION CYCLE

### What is a wastewater treatment plant?

A wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) is responsible for taking waste sent down the drain, then cleaning and treating it through complex processes, and safely returning it back into the environment.


### What is a water treatment plant?

Water treatment plants (WTP) pull water from sources such as local rivers, lakes, or wells. This water then goes through pollutant removal, disinfection, and cleaning processes. It is then distributed for human consumption as well as use in our homes, businesses and industries.



## CONTACT US

### The Upper Montgomery Joint Authority

-  Jennifer Leister,  
Executive Director
-  1100 Mensch Dam Road,  
Pennsburg, PA 18073
-  (215) 679 – 5133
-  Find us on Facebook!
-  Open Monday-Friday  
7 AM-3:30 PM
-  [www.umja.org](http://www.umja.org)  
Visit our website for information  
on contacting us in the event of  
a sewer emergency.

**NOW AVAILABLE:** E-billing and an online customer portal! Visit our website to learn more about both. Plus- make sure we have your up to date contact information to receive notifications as needed by phone, text and email.



UPPER MONTGOMERY JOINT AUTHORITY

## WHERE WASTE GOES



### What happens after waste goes down the drain?

Wastewater from homes, businesses, and all over your community drain into an underground network of pipes that lead to a wastewater treatment plant. Find out what happens next.



## UPPER MONTGOMERY JOINT AUTHORITY

Upper Montgomery Joint Authority's mission is to operate and maintain its wastewater treatment plant and collection system in a socially, ethically, and environmentally responsible manner, to protect the health, well-being, and quality of life of our customers and the public at large, living, working, and playing within the Valley.

### Our Treatment Plant:

The Upper Montgomery Joint Authority (UMJA) owns and operates a 2.0 Million Gallon per Day wastewater treatment plant where we treat the waste collected through our sewer collection system.

### Our Treated Discharge:

The treated effluent is discharged into the beautiful Green Lane Reservoir, a warm water fishery that's also used as the public water supply for the area.

### Our Collection System:

UMJA also owns and operates a sanitary sewer collection system, serving customers in Red Hill Borough, Pennsburg Borough, and East Greenville Borough.

## WHERE DOES IT GO AFTER YOU GO?

After your waste is sent down the drain, travels through our collection system, and then arrives at our treatment plant it goes through many complex processes before it can be released back into the environment.

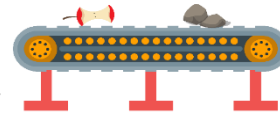


### Step 1: Collection

Wastewater sent down the drain enters our collection system, a network of underground pipes that carry waste to the treatment plant. Wastewater comes from bathrooms, kitchens, dishwashers, showers, or anywhere else that water is leaving your home or building.

### Step 2: Screening

Once wastewater arrives at our plant, treatment begins. Preliminary treatment involves screening to remove any large objects or solids. This can include things like sticks, rags, leaves, and trash that have made their way into the collection.



### Step 3: Aeration

Remaining wastewater is placed into large storage tanks where oxygen is pumped in. The addition of oxygen promotes growth of natural microorganisms that digest bacteria and solids.



### Step 4: Settling

Waste settles in the final clarifier. Allowing the wastewater to sit for an extended period while also slowing the flow allows sedimentation and remaining waste to settle to the bottom of the tanks for removal.

### Step 5: Advanced Treatment

Through the final phase of treatment, remaining water becomes disinfected through the use of chlorination



### Step 6: Water Discharge

The treatment process is very complex, balancing several biological and chemical processes. Once wastewater has undergone all phases of the process and meets clean water standards, it is released into the Green Lane Reservoir.

## BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU FLUSH

Everything that goes down the drain makes its way into our collection system. Here's a few things to refrain from draining so we can keep our systems running smoothly!

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| ✗ Diapers              | ✗ Pharmaceuticals   |
| ✗ Paper towels         | ✗ Feminine products |
| ✗ Paints and chemicals | ✗ Fat, grease, oils |
| ✗ Any types of wipes   | ✗ Kitty litter      |

## FERTILE FUEL

Available at no cost: natural organic fertilizer!

Wastewater treatment produces two products: clean water and biosolids. Biosolids are decomposed solid waste after the sewage has been treated. The results are rich in nitrogen, include organic content, and are safe for use in landscaping and agriculture. Grab yours at the UMJA plant!

