COLLECTION SYSTEM
Our combined sewer system collects wastewater from homes and businesses as well as stormwater runoff from streets.

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission is a department of the City and County of San Francisco that provides retail drinking water and wastewater services to San Francisco, wholesale water to three Bay Area counties, and green hydroelectric and solar power to San Francisco’s municipal departments.

Our mission is to provide our customers with high quality, efficient and reliable water, power, and sewer services in a manner that is inclusive of environmental and community interests, and that sustains the resources entrusted to our care.

We operate and maintain three wastewater treatment facilities and over 1,000 miles of sewer pipes. We work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to protect public health and the environment.

For more information, visit: sfwater.org #sfsewer

San Francisco Water Power Sewer
Services of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

OCEANSIDE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROCESS

BAR SCREENS
Fine bar screens remove trash and debris (paper towels, plastic bags, rags, wood, etc.).

Grit removal
Water flows through tanks at a slow speed that allows the heaviest suspended particles, called grit, to settle.

Primary clarifiers
Heavier solids (sludge) settle to the bottom, scum is skimmed off the top.

Aeration basins
Oxygen-loving micro-organisms consume pollutants and break down solids.

Secondary clarifiers
Remaining solids and scum are removed.

Collection system
Our combined sewer system collects wastewater from homes and businesses as well as stormwater runoff from streets.

Trash, debris, and grit are removed from the bar screens and grit tanks, then taken to the landfill.

Biosolids, or “cake” is loaded into trucks and used as landfill cover and also provides nutrients for non-food crops.

The treatment process generates methane gas as a byproduct, which is used for up to 42% of the plant’s power needs.

Anaerobic digesters
Sludge is heated to 95°F and micro-organisms break it down. This biological process takes 15-30 days.

Engine generator

Grease, or FOG is filtered out of wastewater.

Discharge pipe
Treated water (effluent) is released over 4 miles into the Bay.

Biosolids

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Biosolids
**OCEANSIDE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT TOUR**

**TOUR STOPS**

1. Tour Start
2. Bar Screens/Headworks
3. Grit Removal
4. Gravity Belt Thickeners
5. Anaerobic Digesters
6. Primary Clarifiers
7. Aeration Basins
8. Secondary Clarifiers

**TIPS TO KEEP OUR SEWER LINES CLEAN**

- When it comes to your toilet: Remember the “3 Ps” – Poop, Paper, and Pee!
- Please don’t flush sanitary wipes or so-called “flushable wipes”. Only flush toilet paper down the pipes.
- Floss more often! But put dental floss in the trash, not the toilet.
- Take expired, unwanted medicines to a local drug store for safe disposal—fish in the bay and ocean will appreciate it.
- Never pour cooking oil or grease down the drain. Find a drop-off location near you at sfgreasecycle.org.
- Keep leaves, grass clippings, and litter from clogging storm drains—this can cause flooding on your street.
- Call 311 to report clogged catch basins, illegal dumping, and sewer overflows.

THANK YOU

**OCEANSIDE PLANT AT A GLANCE**

- Built in 1993
- Treats 20% of the City’s flows
- Serves the Westside urban watersheds
- Capacity to treat 43 MGD* of wastewater and up to 66 MGD* during rain storms
- Treated water is released into the Pacific Ocean through deep ocean outfalls
- 12 acres with 70% underground

*Millions of Gallons Daily