

Division of Wastewater – Policies and Procedures Manual Standard Policies and Procedures	
Policy Number – AUB-02-01	Revision Number: 5
Subject Prohibitions and Limitations on Wastewater Discharges	Effective Date: 7/01/13
	Superintendent Approval:
	General Manager Approval:

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to notify all customers of the Athens Utilities Board (AUB) Wastewater Collection System and treatment facilities of prohibited items that cannot be discharged because they may interfere with the wastewater collection and/or treatment capabilities of the Oostanaula Creek and North Mouse Creek Wastewater Treatment Plants.

2.0 SCOPE

This policy applies to all residential and industrial users of the AUB Wastewater Collection System and treatment facilities.

3.0 REFERENCES

- (1) Athens Municipal Code Title 18 Water and Sewers

4.0 GENERAL

Residential and industrial dischargers of wastewater shall ensure that prohibited items listed in **Section 6.0** of this policy are not discharged to the Athens Utilities Board Wastewater Collection System and/or treatment facilities. Those that violate this policy may be subject to fines and penalties, as well as financial responsibilities which ensue for any mitigation actions necessary to correct the problem.

Any exceptions to this policy will be made at the sole discretion of the Board's local control authority.

5.0 DEFINITIONS

AUB – the Athens Utilities Board, and its duly authorized employees, agents, and representatives

Board – the Chairman and all Commissioners but does not include any employees

WWTP – Wastewater Treatment Plant, facilities owned and operated by AUB

Collection System – All AUB-owned pipes, manholes and pump stations used to convey wastewater to the WWTP, which are owned and operated by AUB

Local Control Authority – Superintendent of Water and Wastewater or duly authorized representative

Customer – any person discharging waste to AUB's Wastewater Collection System and/or wastewater treatment facilities

6.0 PROCEDURES/POLICY

6.1 Prohibited Items Discharged to the Wastewater System

General Prohibitions. No person or user shall introduce or cause to be introduced into the WWF any pollutant or wastewater which causes Pass Through or Interference. These general prohibitions apply to all persons and users of the WWF whether or not they are subject to categorical Pretreatment Standards or

any other National, State, or local Pretreatment Standards or Requirements. Violations of these general and specific prohibitions or the provisions of this section may result in the issuance of an industrial pretreatment permit, surcharges, discontinuance of water and/or sewer service and other fines and provisions of Section 207. No person or user shall introduce or cause to be introduced into the WWF the following pollutants, substances, or wastewater:

(a) Pollutants which create, or could create a fire or explosive hazard in the WWF, including, but not limited to, waste streams with a closed-cup flashpoint of less than 140 degrees F (60 degrees C) using the test methods specified in 40 CFR 261.21;

(b) Wastewater having a pH less than 5.0 or more than 10.5, or otherwise causing corrosive structural damage to the WWF or equipment. Prohibited materials include, but are not limited to, acids, sulfides, concentrated chloride and fluoride compounds and substances which will react to form acidic products;

(c) Solid or viscous substances in amounts which will or may cause obstruction of the flow in the WWF or other Interference. Prohibited materials include, but are not limited to, grease, uncomminuted garbage, animal guts or tissues, paunch manure, bones, hair, hides or fleshing, entrails, , feathers, ashes, cinders, sand, spent lime, stone or marble dust, metal, glass, straw, shavings, grass clippings, rags, spent grains, spent hops, waste paper, weeds, plastic, tar, asphalt residues, residues from refining or processing fuel or lubricating oil, and similar substances.;

(d) Pollutants, including oxygen-demanding pollutants (BOD, etc.), released in a discharge at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which, either singly or by interaction with other pollutants, will cause Interference with the WWF;

(e) Wastewater having a temperature greater than 150 degrees F (65.5 degrees C), or which will inhibit biological activity in the treatment plant resulting in Interference, but in no case wastewater which causes the temperature at the introduction into the treatment plant to exceed 104 degrees F (40 degrees C);

(f) Petroleum oil, nonbiodegradable cutting oil, or products of mineral oil origin, in amounts that will cause Interference or Pass Through;

(g) Pollutants which result in the presence of toxic gases, vapors, or fumes within the WWF in a quantity that may cause acute worker health and safety problems;

(h) Trucked or hauled pollutants, except at discharge points designated by the control authority in accordance with Section 205 of this ordinance;

(i) Noxious or malodorous liquids, gases, solids, or other wastewater which, either singly or by interaction with other wastes, are sufficient to create a public nuisance or a hazard to life, or to prevent entry into the sewers for maintenance or repair;

(j) Wastewater which imparts color which cannot be removed by the treatment process, such as, but not limited to, dye wastes and vegetable tanning solutions, which consequently imparts color to the treatment plant's effluent;

(k) Wastewater containing any radioactive wastes or isotopes except in compliance with applicable State or Federal regulations and which will or may cause damage or hazards to the sewerage facilities or personnel operating the system;

(l) Storm water, surface water, ground water, artesian well water, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, condensate, deionized water, Noncontact Cooling Water, and unpolluted wastewater, unless specifically authorized by the superintendent;

(n) Wastewater at a flow rate which is excessive relative to the capacity of the treatment works and which could cause a treatment process upset and subsequent loss of treatment efficiency; or wastewater containing such concentrations of pollutants that their introduction into the treatment works over a relatively short time period (i.e. slug discharges) would cause a treatment process upset and subsequent loss of treatment efficiency.

(o) Wastewater causing, alone or in conjunction with other sources, the treatment plant's effluent to fail toxicity test;

(p) Detergents, surface-active agents, or other substances which that might cause excessive foaming in the WWF;

(r) Wastewater causing two successive readings on an explosion hazard meter at the point of discharge into the WWF, or at any point in the WWF, of more than five percent (5%) or any single reading over ten percent (10%) of the Lower Explosive Limit of the meter. Liquids, solids, or gases which by reason of their nature or quantity are, or may be, sufficient to cause fire or explosion or be injurious in any other way to the sewage facilities or operation of the system. Prohibited materials include but are not limited to gasoline, kerosene, naphtha, benzene, toluene, xylene, ethers, alcohols, ketones, aldehydes, peroxides, chlorates, perchlorates, bromates, carbides, hydrides and sulfides.

(s) Any wastewater containing toxic pollutants in sufficient quantity, either singly or by interaction with other pollutants, to injure or interfere with any wastewater treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals, create a toxic effect in the receiving waters of the WWF, or to exceed the limitation set forth in a Categorical Pretreatment Standard. A toxic pollutant shall include but not be limited to any pollutant identified pursuant to Section 307(a) of the Act.

(t) Any waste containing microbiological organisms, including filamentous bacteria, in such quantity that will interfere with the normal operation of the WWF.

(u) Any waste that, if otherwise disposed of, would be a hazardous waste under 40 CFR Part 261. Pollutants, substances, or wastewater prohibited by this Section shall not be processed or stored in such a manner that they could be discharged to the WWF.

(v) Any substances which will cause the WWF to violate its NPDES Permit or the receiving water quality standards, or cause any other product of the WWF such as residues, sludges, or scums, to be unsuitable for reclamation and reuse or to interfere with the reclamation process. In no case, shall a substance discharged to the WWF cause the WWF to be in non-compliance with sludge use or disposal criteria, 40 CFR 503, guidelines, or regulations developed under Section 405 of the Act; any criteria, guidelines, or regulations affecting sludge use or disposal developed pursuant to the Solid Waste Disposal Act, the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, or state criteria applicable to the sludge management

6.2 Control of Prohibited Wastes

If wastewater containing any substance prohibited or limited by the City of Athens Sewer Use Ordinance or this document are discharged or proposed to be discharged into the wastewater collection system, AUB shall take any action necessary to:

1. Prohibit the discharge of such wastewater;
2. Require a discharger to demonstrate that modification will eliminate the discharge of such substances to a degree as to be acceptable to AUB. A compliance schedule may be required;
3. Require pretreatment including storage facilities or flow equalization necessary to reduce or eliminate the objectionable characteristics or substances so that the discharge will not violate these rules and regulations. A compliance schedule may be required;
4. Take such other remedial action as may be deemed to be desirable or necessary to achieve the purpose of this policy.

6.3 Line Obstructions

If collection system obstructions occur on an AUB line or on the main side of the AUB clean-out, then AUB will correct the problem. If the obstruction is on the customer side of the AUB clean-out, the customer is responsible for all corrective measures, AUB will not inspect or correct the obstruction on the customer's service line.

If a clean-out does not exist and a blockage is found on the service line, then AUB will install an AUB clean-out and determine the location of the blockage. If the obstruction is on the customer side of the newly installed AUB clean-out, then AUB field personnel will inform the customer that they need to contact a plumber or contractor to unstop the service line.

AUB's gravity wastewater collection system includes mains and service lines from the tap to AUB's clean-out which is located in a right-of-way or easement as illustrated *in Figure 1*. AUB's low pressure force main system includes mains, low pressure force mains and grinder pump assemblies. AUB's responsibility begins at the inlet side of the grinder pump.