**The Ohio Nitrogen Removal Program**

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency manages the NPDES surface water discharge program.

Based on communication with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency permitting and water quality planning staff there are two municipal or publicly owned (POTW) NPDES major dischargers, (over one million gallon per day average flow) that have total nitrogen or nitrate nitrogen limits at this time. Future planning will include a 20% in nitrogen discharged into the Ohio River. This is part of the Gulf of Mexico/Mississippi River nutrient reduction initiative as the Ohio River flows into the Mississippi River. As part of the 20% reduction program for the Ohio River future NPDES permits with contain monitoring for nutrients. This is the first step in development of overall nutrient limits in the future.

There are four municipal wastewater treatment plants that are one million gallons per day permitted capacity (NPDES major) with nitrogen limits. The total nitrogen limits are as low as 4.6 mg/l total nitrogen, however, none of the municipal facilities are presently using a supplemental carbon source.

The other dischargers with nitrogen limits are for poultry and meat processing facilities. There are a total of 3 industrial processing facilities facility in Ohio with nitrogen permit limits. The poultry and rendering dischargers each have an NPDES permit. The facilities have a federal EPA technology based limit of 103 mg/l total nitrogen monthly average and 147 mg/l total nitrogen maximum month. Poultry and beef processing facilities that discharge into a municipal wastewater treatment facility have local limits that vary in the amount of nitrogen discharged into the municipal system.