

RIO ALTO WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM:

All wastewater entering the treatment plant is metered. After metering, the wastewater flows to a headworks structure where it passes through a grinding unit.

From the headworks, the wastewater flows to an oxidation ditch where it undergoes biological treatment.

The combined solids and liquid from the oxidation ditch, known as mixed liquor suspended solids, flow to two secondary clarifiers where the solids settle and the remaining liquid flows to a holding pond. The settled solids are pumped back to the beginning of the treatment plant, where they are mixed with incoming wastewater flow to the oxidation ditch. In order to control the biological treatment process, some solids are "wasted" or removed from the system. These solids are dried in six concrete drying beds and 1 asphalt drying bed. Dried solids are trucked to a local landfill for disposal.

Wastewater from the holding pond is pumped to a force-main where it is chlorinated and pumped 2 miles and is discharged to the created wetlands.