



Glossary

Flocculants

Materials added to water which can cause gelatinous clouds of precipitate to enclose fine particles of foreign material in order to settle or filter them from the water.

Groundwater

The term describes all subsurface water and the source of well water. It can be found in aquifers as deep as several miles.

Ion Exchange

A reversible process in which ions are released from an insoluble permanent material in exchange for other ions in a surrounding solution; the direction of the exchange depends upon the affinities of the ion exchange for the ions present and the concentration of the ions in the solution. The ion exchanger media is an insoluble permanent solid medium.

Ultrafiltration

It is a membrane purification system that removes small colloids and large molecules from various solutions. The process falls between reverse osmosis and microfiltration as far as the size of particles removed is concerned.

Ultraviolet Light

Ultraviolet radiations have a wave length shorter than 4000 angstroms (visible light) down to 100 angstroms on the border of the x-ray region. Ultraviolet light is used as a disinfectant.

Softening

A process used to remove hardness as a result of calcium, magnesium, and some iron ions in a water supply.