

**total nitrogen**

measure of the complete nitrogen content in wastewater including nitrate ( $\text{NO}_3^-$ ), nitrite ( $\text{NO}_2^-$ ), ammonia ( $\text{NH}_3$ ), ammonium ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ), and organic nitrogen, expressed as mg/L of N; all these forms of nitrogen, (as well as nitrogen gas [ $\text{N}_2$ ]), can be biochemically converted from one form to another and are constituents of the nitrogen cycle.