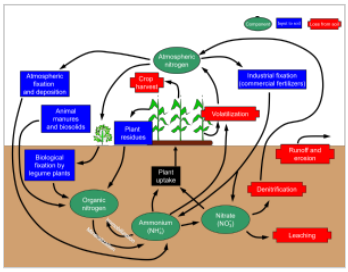
nitrogen (N)

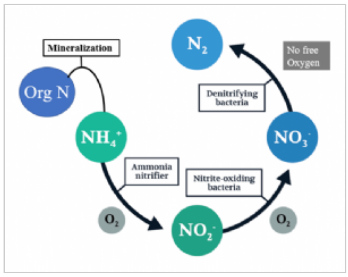
Essential chemical element and nutrient for all life forms; molecular formula (N_2), constitutes 78 percent of the atmosphere by volume; nitrogen is present in surface water and groundwater as ammonia (NH_3), nitrite (NO_2^-), nitrate (NO_3^-), and organic nitrogen; excess levels of nitrogen in marine areas may contribute to eutrophication; see also ammonia nitrogen, ammonium nitrogen, nitratte nitrogen, nitrate; nitrite nitrogen and organic nitrogen.

nitrogen (N) images/graphics:



Nitrogen cycle

Illustration of nitrogen processing in the environment



Nitrogen processing

Biochemical transformations between nitrogen species occurring in wastewater treatment systems