



**THE RESULT OF PHOSPHORUS OVER FERTILIZATION OF A LAKE,  
OCCOQUAN RESERVOIR, NORTHERN VIRGINIA, 1972**

**What are the effects of excess nutrients?  
Low oxygen levels in water.  
FISH DIE!**

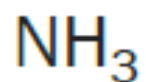


# Nitrification

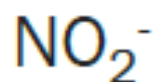
## Oxidation of Ammonia to Nitrate

Ammonia  
Oxidizing  
Bacteria

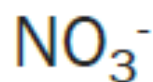
*Nitrosomonas*



Ammonia



Nitrite



Nitrate

*Nitrobacter*

Nitrite  
Oxidizing  
Bacteria

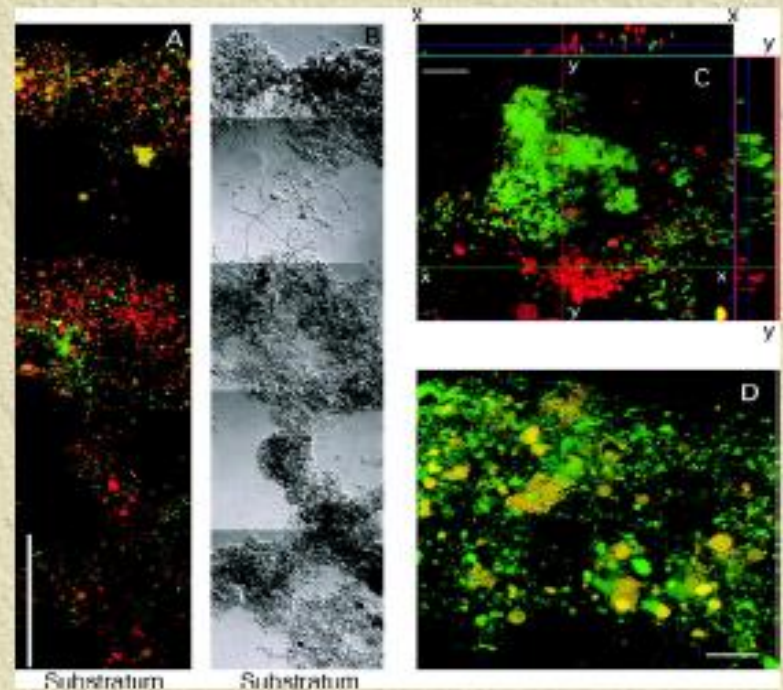
# Genera of Nitrifying Bacteria

## ✦ Ammonia Oxidizers

- Nitrosomonas
- Nitrosococcus
- Nitrospira
- Nitrosorbio

## ✦ Nitrite Oxidizers

- Nitrobacter
- Nitrospira
- Nitrococcus
- Nitrospina



C- Ammonia oxidizers appear red and Nitrospira appear green

# Characteristics of Nitrifying Organisms

- Autotrophic
- Aerobic
- Slow growing
- Non-floc forming
- More sensitive to environmental changes than heterotrophs

# *Effect of Temperature on Nitrification*

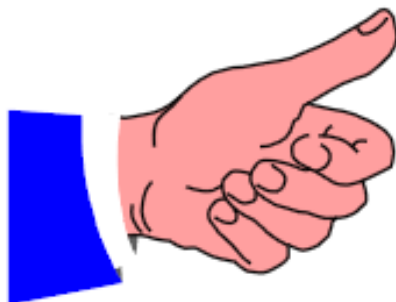
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As temperature increases, nitrifier growth rate increases (within the range of 4° C to 35° C).

$T \uparrow$                        $\mu \uparrow$

As nitrifier growth rate increases, required MCRT decreases.

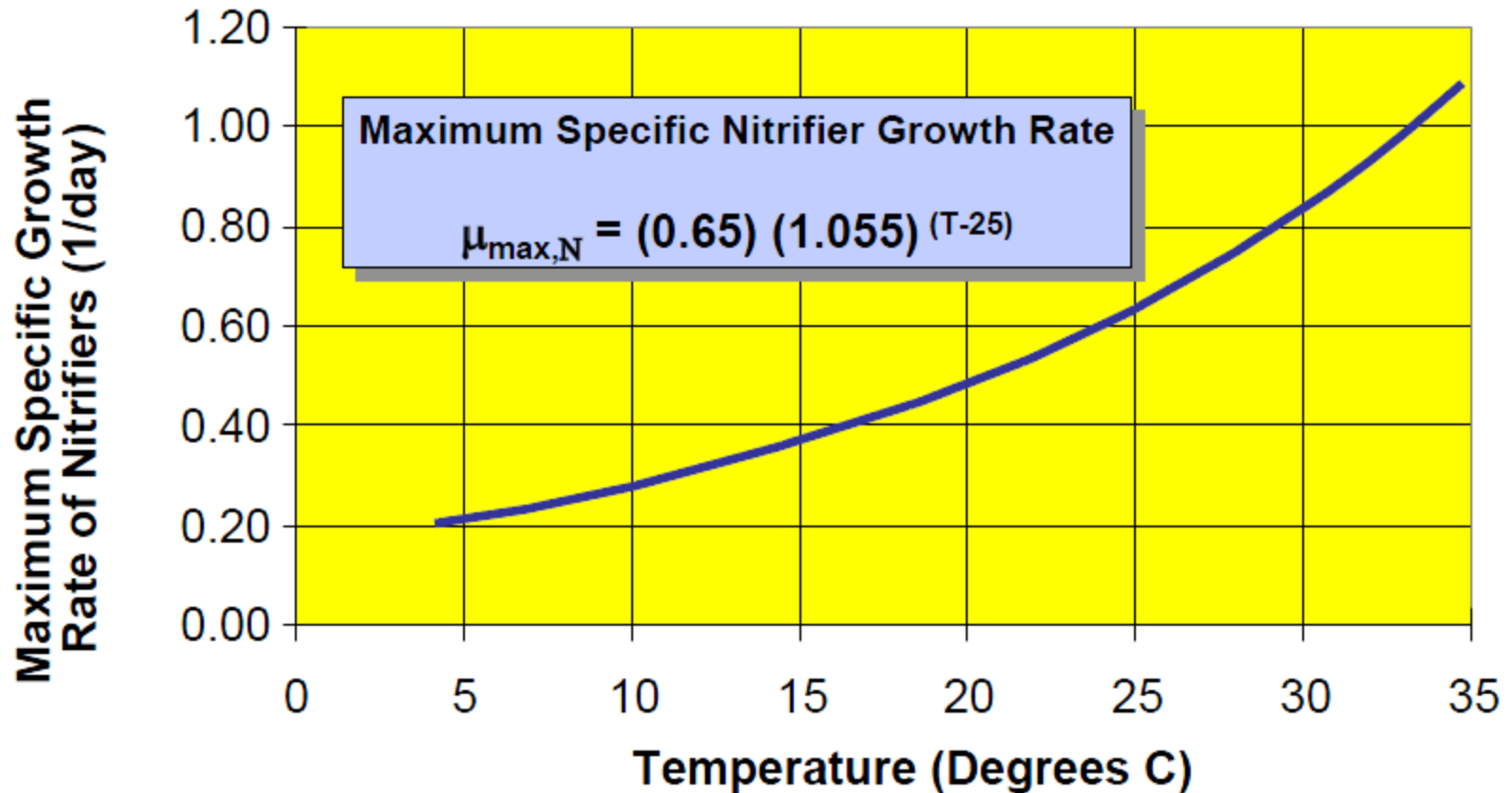
$\mu \uparrow$                       MCRT  $\downarrow$



## Rule of Thumb:

For every 10°C increase in temperature, nitrifier growth rate doubles, required MCRT is cut in half and required MLSS concentration is also reduced.

## *Effect of Temperature on Nitrifier Growth Rate*



# Design Guidelines

## Nitrification

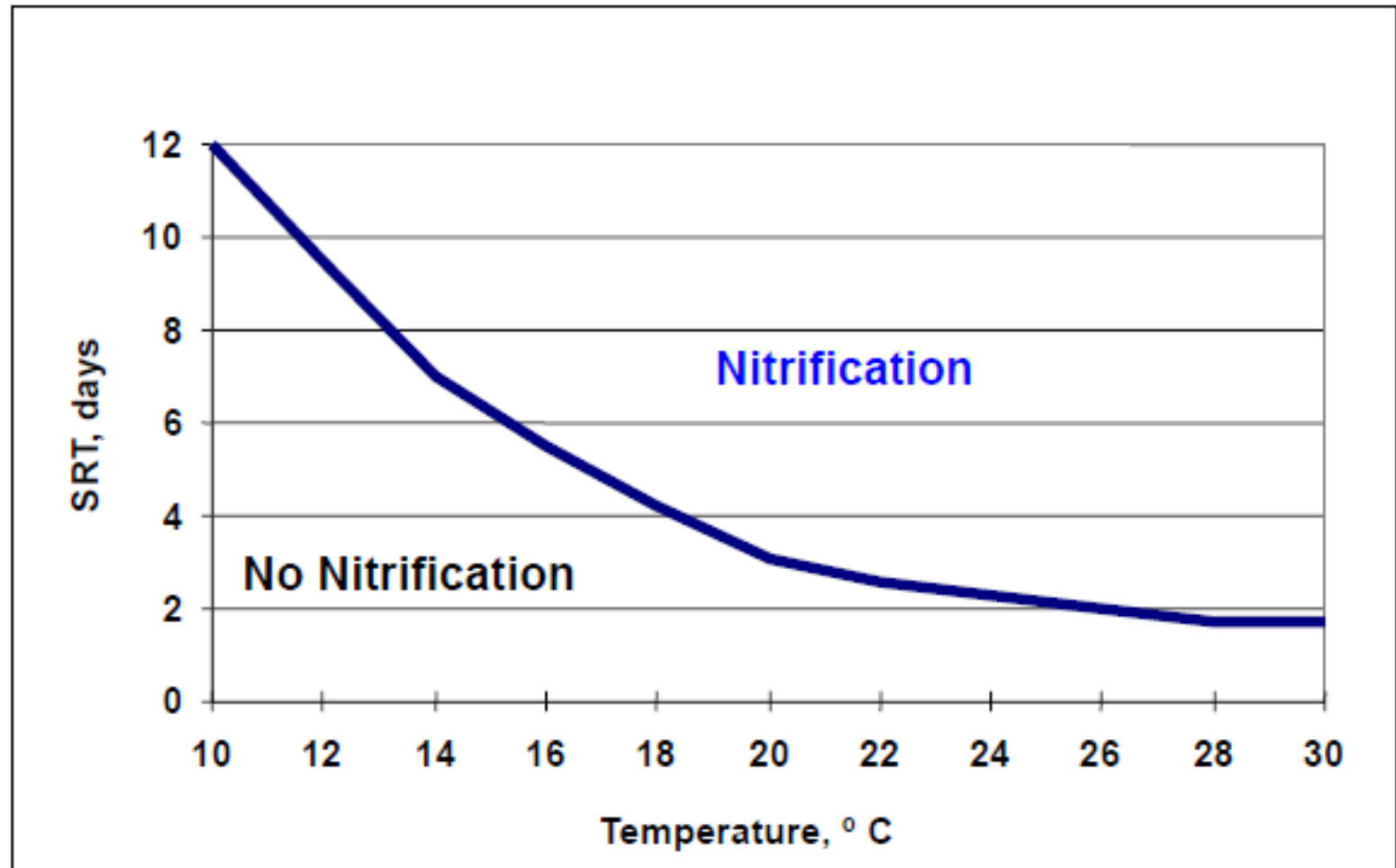
Temperature, °C	Min. SRT, days
10	20
15	15
20	10



# Alkalinity is Consumed or Produced by

<u>Process</u>	<u>Alkalinity Change, mg/L</u>	<u>Per mg/L of</u>
Nitrification	-7.1	Ammonia-N oxidized
Denitrification	+3.6	Nitrate-N reduced
Chlorination	-1.4	Chlorine added
Breakpoint Chlorination	-1.4	Chlorine added
Dechlorination	-2.4	Sulfur dioxide added
Dechlorination	-1.4	Sodium bisulfite added
Phosphorus Removal	-5.6	Aluminum added
Phosphorus Removal	-2.7	Iron added

# SRT drives nitrification..... Temperature drives SRT



*Where Does Nitrogen End Up  
In A Nitrifying Plant ?*

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- **In the Sludge**
- **In the Effluent**
- **In the Atmosphere**

## *How Much Nitrogen is in the Sludge ?*

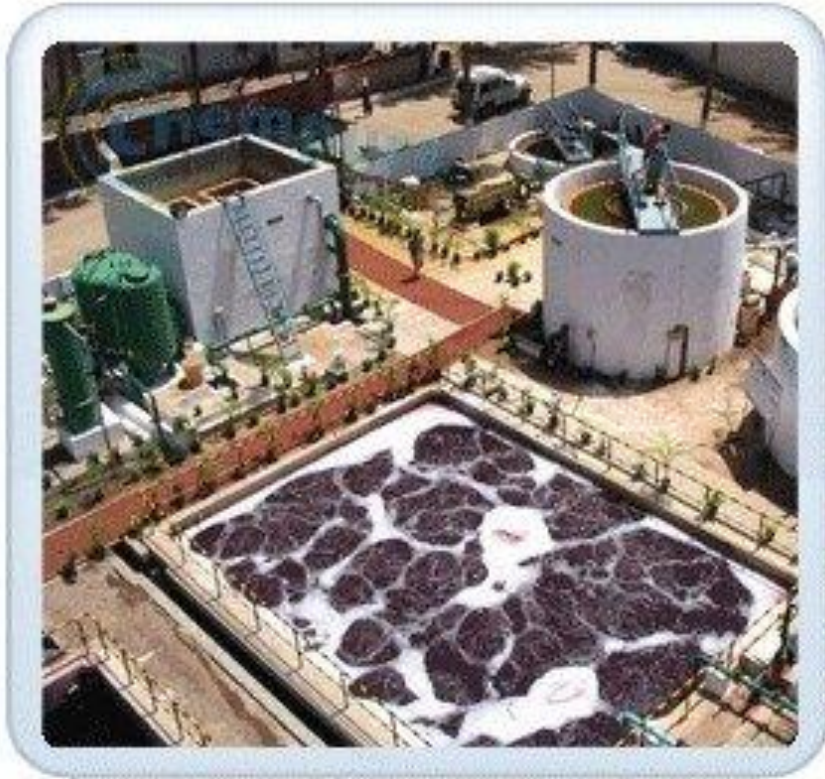
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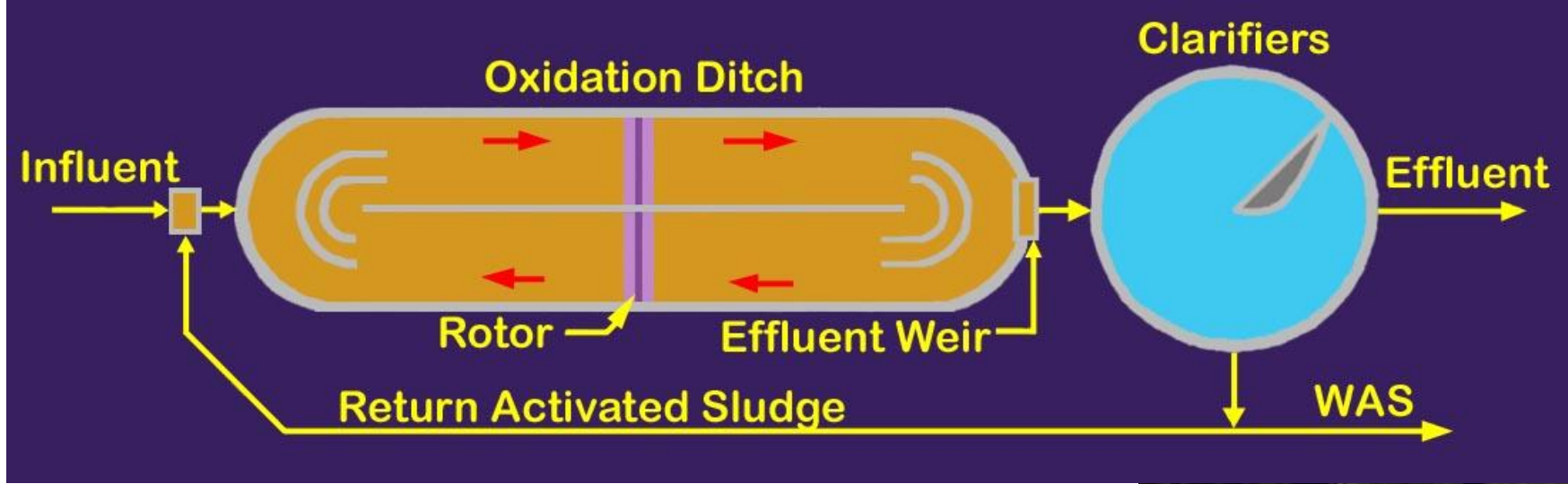
**Primary Sludge** - **About 2.5% of Total Solids is Nitrogen**

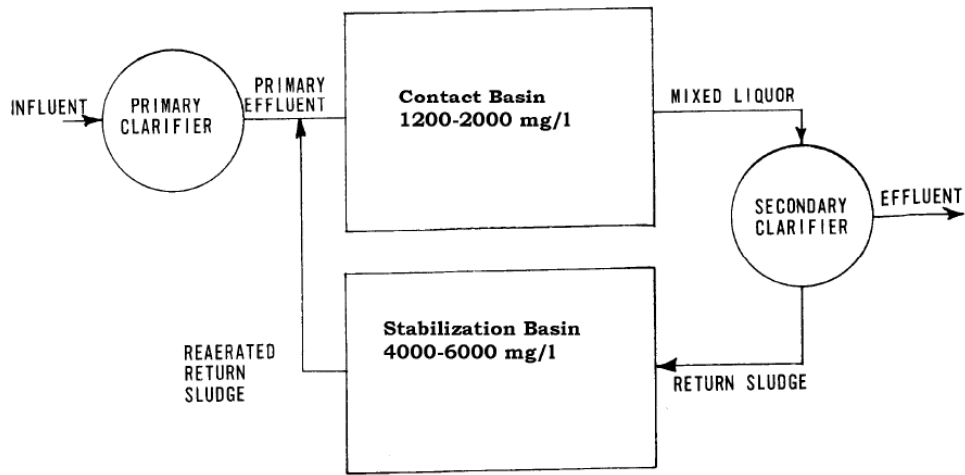
**Secondary Sludge** - **8 - 12% of Total Solids is Nitrogen on VSS basis**



# CONVENTIONAL EXTENDED AERATION







**Contact Stabilization**



**Contact Basin solids on the left and  
Stabilization Basin solids on the right.**