

# Drinking Water: Treatment

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# Overview of Presentation

- Overview of main types of treatment
- Schematics of basic components of types of treatment
- Most common applications of types of treatment

## Making water safe to drink

The water treatment process is done in stages. Follow the diagram below to find out more.

Storage of water such as in a water tower.

READY TO DRINK!!!

**Screening**  
Screens remove large solids such as stones, etc.

**Mixing tank**  
A chemical is added to make the smaller solids (dirt) stick together.

**Sedimentation**  
Any remaining solids are collected and removed.

**Filtration**  
The water is filtered to make it cleaner.

**Chlorination**  
Chlorine is added to kill any bacteria and make the water safe to drink.



DANGER  
NO SWIMMING





# Main Types of Treatment

1. Coagulation followed by Rapid Gravity Filtration
2. Dissolved Air Flotation followed by Rapid Gravity Filtration
3. Slow Sand Filtration
4. Membrane Filtration

All followed by disinfection and fluoridation

# Main Types of Disinfection

- Chlorination
- Ultraviolet Treatment

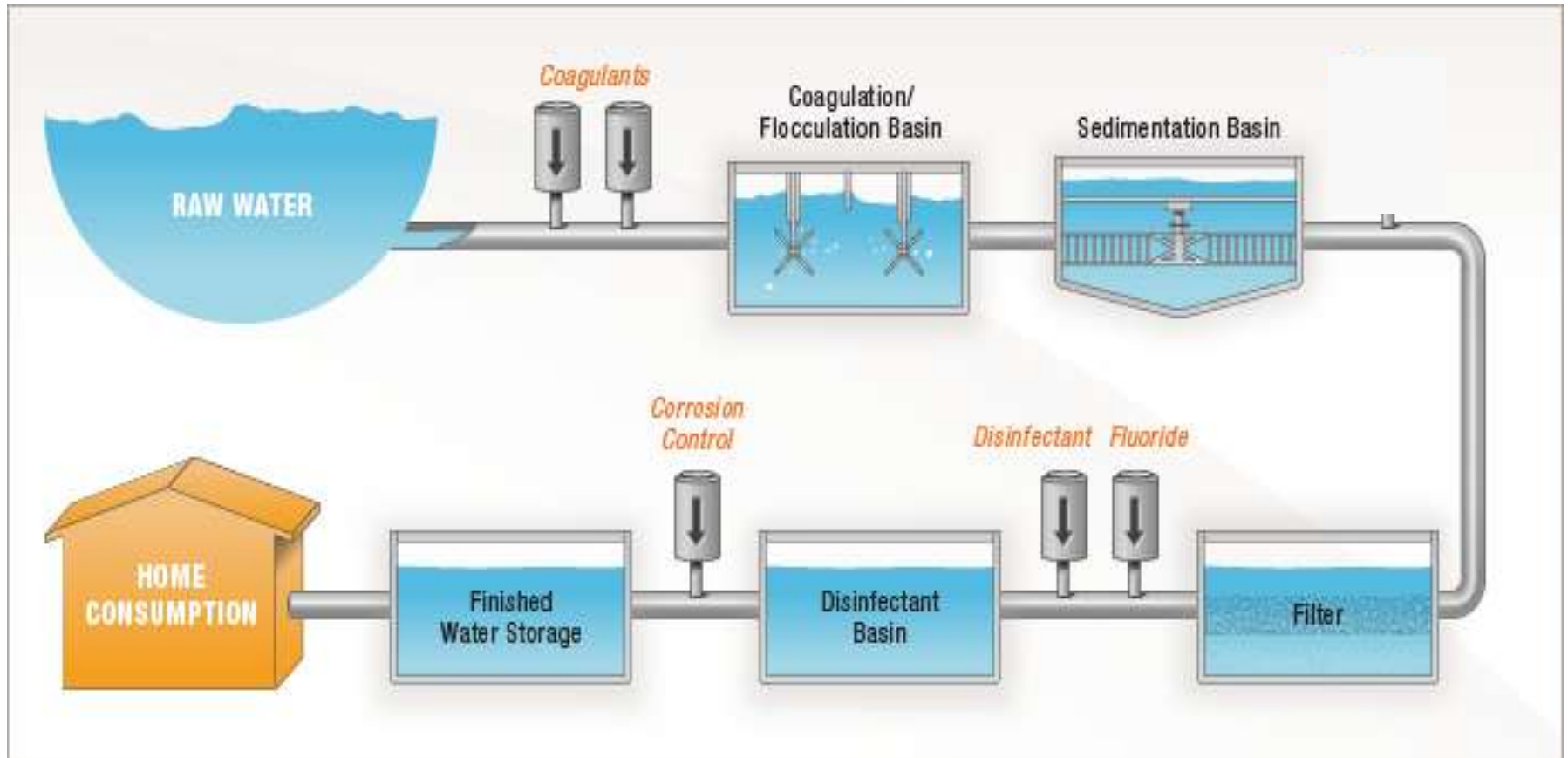
# Less Common Types of Treatment

- Ozonation
- Chlorine Dioxide
- Chloramination
- Ion Exchange (e.g. for Nitrate or Arsenic removal)

## Coagulation and RGF

- Most common type of treatment (e.g. 7 of 8 largest plants use this technology)
- Used in river sources and lake sources with high colour/turbidity
- Requires good knowledge of chemical dosing and ongoing management of the plant
- Optimisation of the process is key

# Coagulation and RGF





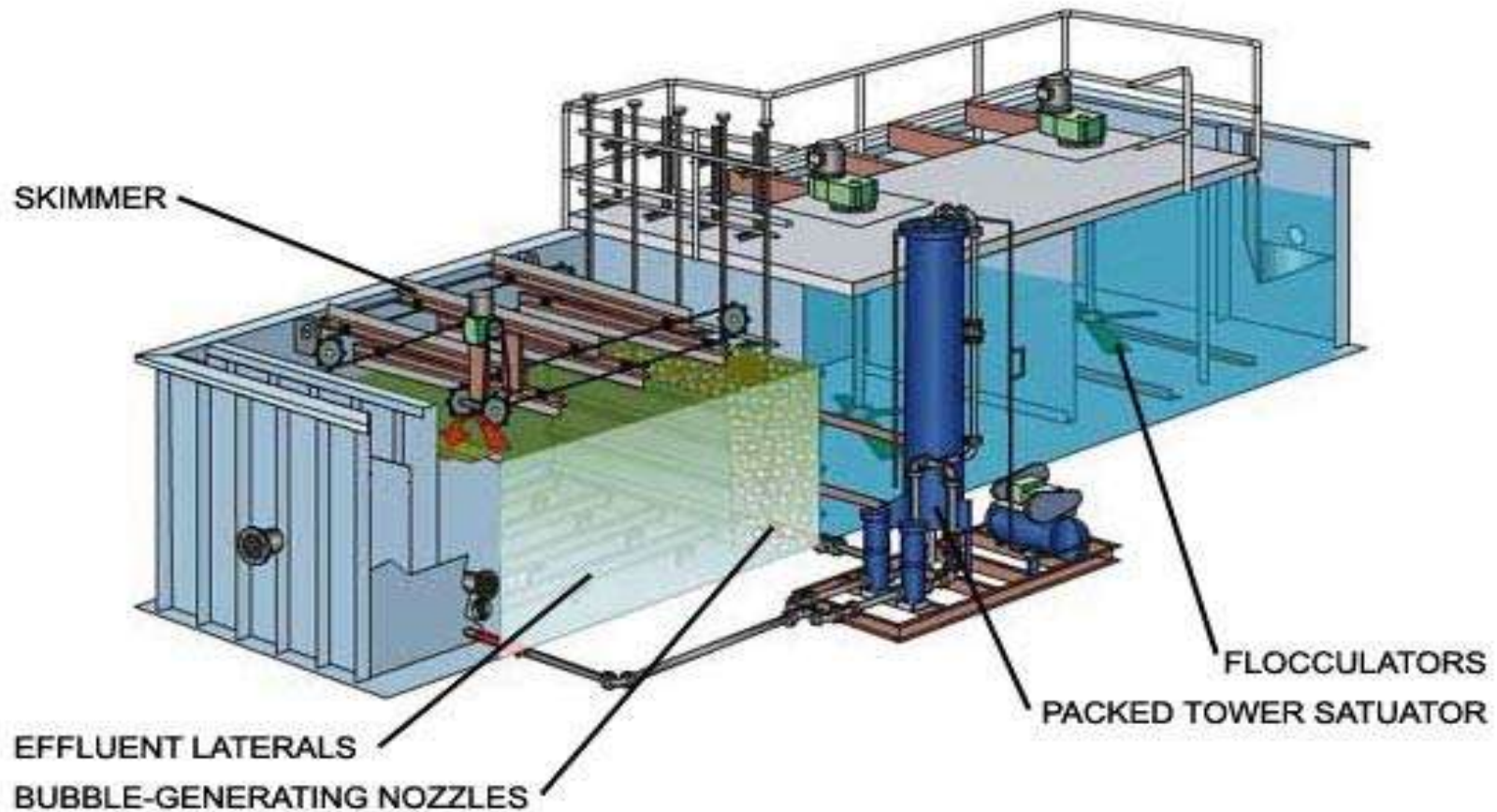




## Dissolved Air Flotation

- Used in similar situations to coagulation plants but easier to control in small plants
- Less space requirements
- Modular process (i.e. good where demand varies throughout the year)

# Dissolved Air Flotation

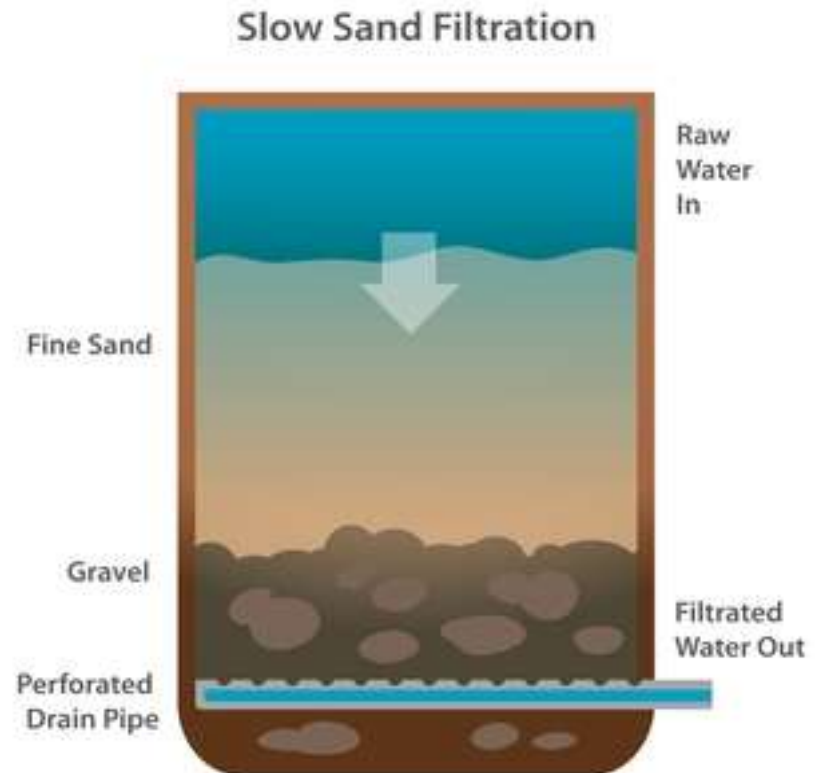




Top of DAF Unit →

# Slow Sand Filtration

- Used in stable low coloured lake sources
- Simple technology
- Easy to manage
- Effective for Crypto removal







## Membrane Filtration

- Effective barrier to pathogens and micro-organisms (i.e. very effective against *Cryptosporidium*)
- Expensive and energy intensive process
- Limited application in Ireland to supplies where *Cryptosporidium* a risk





# Disinfection

- Essential component for all water supplies:
  - To disinfect the water
  - To provide a residual disinfectant in the distribution network to prevent recontamination
- Chlorination most common method
- UV used as primary disinfectant with chlorine as residual in some increasingly

# Disinfection: Chlorination

- Chlorine Gas
- Sodium Hypochlorite
- On-site electrochlorination
- Chlorine Tablets



Duty and Standby Dosing Pumps

Chlorine Monitor

Sodium Hypochlorite



Continuous Monitor

UV Lamp

# Distribution Network

- Reservoirs
- Rechlorination



