

ERB Acronym and Glossary – G

Acronym	Glossary	Definition
GAC	Granular Activated Carbon	A filtering system often used in small water systems and individual homes to remove organics. GAC can be highly effective in removing elevated levels of radon from water.
GAO	General Accounting Office	Accounting and auditing office of the United States government. An independent agency that reviews federal financial transactions and reports directly to Congress.
GC	Gas Chromatography	the separation of a mixture of compounds (solutes) into separate components, which then can be analyzed by a mass spectrometer to yield detailed empirical molecular information regarding the chemistry of the samples.
GC/MS	Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry	Highly sophisticated instrument that identifies the molecular composition and concentrations of various chemicals in water and soil samples.
GIS	Geographic Information System	A computer system designed for storing, manipulating, analyzing, and displaying data in a geographic context.
GLC	Gas Liquid Chromatography	a liquid is supported by a base of solid material for the separation of the mixture of gases.
GMP	Groundwater Monitoring Plan	Groundwater monitoring plan normally involves a network of monitoring or observation wells or micro wells and indicates the procedures and necessary documentation involved.
GOCO	Government Owned/Contractor Operated	facility is a manufacturing plant that is owned by the Government and operated under contract by a non-government, private firm.
gpd	gallons per day	Unit of measurement used for small liquid flow rate. Generally the flow rate on most showerheads is 2.5 gallons per minute or 3600 gallons per day.
gpm	gallons per minute	Unit of measurement used for liquid flow rate. Generally the flow rate on most showerheads is 2.5 gallons per minute.
GPR	Ground Penetrating Radar	A geophysical technology that uses radio waves to detect buried objects and the internal structure of landforms. Ground swell: (1) Long high swell in deep water. (2) Also, this swell as if rises to prominent height in shoal water.
Gr°	standard Gibbs free energy	The energy associated with a chemical reaction at standard state conditions \that can be used to do work. The free energy of a system is the sum of its enthalpy plus the product of the temperature and the entropy of the system.
GSA	General Services Administration	An agency whose purpose is to "help federal agencies better serve the public by offering, at best value, superior workplaces, expert solutions, acquisition services and management policies." The GSA organization consists of the Federal Supply Service, the Federal Technology Service, the Public Buildings Service, the Office of Government wide Policy, and various Staff Offices, including the Office of Small Business Utilization, the Office of Citizen Services and Communications, and the Office of Civil Rights.

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GTS	Geostatistical Temporal-Spatial Algorithm	A long term monitoring network optimization technique that uses a geostatistical method known as "kriging" to optimize sampling frequency and define the network of essential sampling locations.
GW	groundwater	The supply of fresh water found beneath the Earth's surface in the interstices between soil grains, in fractures, or in porous formations. Because groundwater is a major source of drinking water, there is growing concern over contamination from leaching agricultural or industrial pollutants or leaking underground storage tanks.
GWM	Groundwater Monitoring	The process of measuring the physical and/or chemical properties of groundwater on a periodic basis. Concentrations of contaminants are frequently monitored to determine if they are increasing, decreasing, or remaining in the same range. Monitoring is also performed at and in the vicinity of water supply sources to determine the quality and trends of indicators of water quality.
GWPS	Groundwater Protection Standard	means the concentration of a specified constituent, statistically calculated, which is achievable with a 95% (percent) confidence level, or greater.
GWTP	Groundwater Treatment Plant	A facility wherein a treatment process removes suspended solids from the groundwater, destroys the contaminants in the groundwater, and prevents airborne emissions of contaminants from entering the atmosphere. Prior to discharge from the GWTP, treated water is monitored to ensure that it meets discharge limits.

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	galvanic corrosion	Corrosion associated with the current of a galvanic cell consisting of two dissimilar conductors in an electrolyte or two similar conductors in dissimilar electrolytes; where the two dissimilar metals are in contact, the resulting reaction is referred to as couple reaction.
	game fish	Species like trout, salmon, or bass, caught for sport. Many of them show more sensitivity to environmental change than "rough" fish.
	gamma ray log	A method of logging wells or boreholes by observing the natural radioactivity of rocks through which the hole passes.
	gas chromatogram	A "fingerprint" of a mixture of chemicals showing peaks and bumps attributable to resolved and unresolved compounds, respectively.
	generator	1) A facility or mobile source that emits pollutants into the air or releases hazardous waste into water or soil. 2) Any person whose act or process produces regulated medical waste or whose act first causes such waste to become subject to regulation. In a case where more than one person (e.g., doctors with separate medical

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		practices) is located in the same building, each business entity is a separate generator.
	geological log	A detailed description of all underground features (depth, thickness, type of formations) discovered during the drilling of a well.
	geophysical log	Methods of logging by lowering a sensing device into a well to make a record which can be interpreted in terms of the rock's characteristics, the contained fluids, and of the construction of the well.
	geophysics	Study of the physical properties of the earth's crust and subsurface
	Geoprobe	A vehicle-mounted, hydraulically-powered, soil probing device that utilizes static force and percussion to advance small diameter sampling tools into the subsurface for collecting soil core, soil gas, or groundwater samples. A registered trademark of Kejr Engineering, Inc., Salina, Kansas.
	georeferenced	Able to be located relative to the earth (property of a spatial data item).
	geospatial	Term used to describe a class of data that has geographic or spatial nature.
	geostatistics	The application of .statistical theory and practice to geologic phenomena or to any type of spatial data.
	Gosner stages	A numerical charting system for measuring the maturation of frogs, based on K.I. Gosner's anuran embryo staging tables.
	grab sample	A single sample collected at a particular time and place that represents the composition of the media only at that time and place.
	graded	An engineering term pertaining to the variation of sizes in soil or an unconsolidated sediment; a soil consisting of particles of several or many sizes or having a uniform or equable distribution of particles from coarse to fine. Well graded materials have many sizes, whereas poorly graded materials are more uniform in size.
	gravel pack	Gravel placed around the outside of the well screen to increase the effective diameter of the well and therefore the well efficiency.
	ground cover	Plants grown to keep soil from eroding.
	groundwater discharge	Groundwater entering near coastal waters which has been contaminated by landfill leachate, deep well injection of hazardous wastes, septic tanks, etc.
	groundwater flow	The movement of water through openings in sediment and rock that occurs in the zone of saturation.
	groundwater flow velocity	A measure of the direction and speed of Groundwater Flow.
	groundwater remediation	Treatment of groundwater to remove pollutants.
	Guam	Guam is a island in the Western Pacific, one of the Northern Marianas. It is home to Andersen Air Force Base and U.S. Naval Forces Marianas.
	guar gum	Extract from the guar bean, a tropical plant; generally the extract is dried and commercially provided as a

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		powder for oil drilling and environmental applications
	gully erosion	Severe erosion in which trenches are cut to a depth greater than 30 centimeters (a foot). Generally, ditches deep enough to cross with farm equipment are considered gullies.