Ma On Shan Water Treatment Works provides a treated water supply to Sha Tin and Ma On Shan areas. It was first commissioned in March 1997 with a treated water output of 227,000 m³/day.

**The Water Treatment Process**

1. **Raw Water**
   The raw water treated by the Ma On Shan Water Treatment Works comes from Plover Cove Reservoir and High Island Reservoir.

2. **Mixing**
   Incoming raw water is dosed at the Carbon Contact Chambers and Rapid Mix Tanks with the following chemicals as needed:
   - Hydrated Lime - to pre-condition the raw water prior to addition of alum
   - Chlorine - to suppress the proliferation of algae
   - Alum - to coagulate impurities
   - Polyelectrolyte - to assist the coagulation and flocculation of impurities
   - Potassium - to remove manganese in water
   - Permanganate

3. **Flocculation and Sedimentation**
   After mixing, water is passed to the flocculation tanks where coagulation and flocculation of the impurities in the water occur. With the aid of dissolved alum, the impurities coagulate into large particles which settle as sludge in the sedimentation basins. The sludge is collected and conveyed to sludge thickening tanks for further treatment before disposal.

4. **Rapid Gravity Filtration**
   Water from the sedimentation basins flows to the constant rate rapid gravity dual media (sand/anthracite) filters for removal of the more finely divided suspensions (floc particles). Periodically the filter beds are cleaned by backwashing with compressed air and then water.

5. **Clear Water Tanks**
   Chlorine and lime are dosed into the filtered water in the contact tanks to disinfect and control the alkalinity of the treated water. Fluoride is dosed for dental protection. The treated water is stored in the clear water tank, then it is pumped to service reservoirs for distribution to the consumers.

6. **Pumping Facilities**
   The pumping station in Ma On Shan Water Treatment Works has five pumps with a pumping capacity of 285,000 m³/day.

7. **Environmental-friendly Facilities**
   The washwater equalisation tanks collect the filter backwash water for recycling after combining with raw water. Sludge produced in the treatment works is thickened by two circular gravity thickeners using polyelectrolyte as coagulant in the sludge thickening tanks. Thickened sludge is pressed by filter press into cakes for disposal at landfill sites.

8. **Water Quality Control**
   The quality of water is closely monitored by means of chemical, bacteriological and biological examinations of water samples taken from treatment works and throughout the supply system to ensure its compliance with the Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality recommended by the World Health Organization.