

**Subject:** NEBRAMail - Your distilled residuals news  
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Distilled biosolids and residuals news for New England and eastern Canada

June 18, 2014

**Abstracts Needed by Friday.**

N.E. Biosolids Conference

October 22 - 23 - So. Portland

**Abstracts --> June 20.** [Details.](#)

**A ONCE-A-DECADE EVENT!**

**Soil in the City Conference**

June 29 - July 2, 2014 - Chicago

*The* every-10-year residuals science conference by the USDA W-2170 Research Committee on Soil-Based Use of Residuals, Wastewater, and Reclaimed Water. [Details.](#)

**Don't miss out!**

**MORE EVENTS**

- **June 19:** Phosphorus Recovery & Reuse

**New "Phosphorus in Biosolids" Fact Sheet**



A new "[Phosphorus in Biosolids](#)" Fact Sheet is available. Developed by the WEF "Sustainable Residuals Use Subcommittee," it summarizes the challenges and opportunities of managing P in solids and soils. Legislation and regulations in many New England states are restricting use of P on turfgrass, and agricultural nutrient management is driving use of P indices and P source coefficients. This is critical information for biosolids managers!

**Maine DEP Finalizes New Odor Regulations**

Maine facilities that compost or otherwise process wastewater solids and septage will have to follow new, strict odor standards in early 2015 when new provisions take effect.

In early June, the ME Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) released its final rule adoption package, including the full text of the updated rules, [for Chapter 410 - composting facilities](#) and [for Chapter 409 - other processing facilities](#). The new rules adopt the n-butanol scale for odor measurement (see the sections titled "Odor Control" (section 4F in Ch. 409 and section 4E in Ch. 410)).

Malodors are widely considered the primary cause of public upset around biosolids and septage management programs. Regulations addressing odors are a double-edged sword. They make it more difficult and costly to recycle these materials. But, at the same time, they may ensure significant malodors don't happen and cause the kind of public upset that shuts down a program.

The change in how Maine DEP is addressing odors is dramatic.... [More...](#)

**New Book by David Lewis, PhD**

Workshop - Ryerson Univ.  
Contact the [NEBRA office](#) for details.

- **June 23, 1 -3 pm:** Biogas to Transportation Fuel, a free WEF webinar. [Details.](#)
- **July 22 & 23:** Advanced Stabilization Symposium, Alexandria, VA, presented by MABA. [Details.](#)
- **September 8:** International Workshop on Sludge/Biosolids Management, Burlington, ON. [Registration.](#) See below right.
- **October 22 - 23, 2014:** **NORTH EAST RESIDUALS & BIOSOLIDS CONFERENCE** - So. Portland, Maine. [Details.](#)

## CHECK IT OUT...

- **Soils Matter!** is [a new blog](#) from the Soil Science Society of America, responding to questions about soil, like "What does it mean for a soil to be healthy?"
- **Colorado biosolids recycling** is nicely covered in this [5280' magazine article](#) by Rachel Cernansky.
- **Compost Webinars** - the Compost Council of Canada has excellent video webinars and PDFs for your viewing. One example: ["Organics Management in Quebec - From Scratch to Banning!"](#) A PDF example: ["Building the Value of Compost"](#)

## NEWS from NEBRA

Past news stories are available on the NEBRA website "[News](#)" page.

Microbiologist and former EPA employee David Lewis, PhD, has just released "[Science for Sale](#)," a book that includes recounting of his two decades of arguments, lawsuits, and actions critiquing the EPA Part 503 regulations and biosolids use on soils. The book's subtitle is "How the US Government Uses Powerful Corporations and Leading Universities to Support Government Policies, Silence Top Scientists, Jeopardize Our Health, and Protect Corporate Profits."

Today, as he has over the past 15 years, Dr. Lewis continues to claim there is a deep and broad conspiracy behind the research and practice of using biosolids on soils.

[More...](#)

## In Brief / en bref....

### The Saguenay, QC biosolids program was highlighted again,

this time in the June 2014 [L'UtiliTerre](#), an agricultural trade magazine. The article notes that "for over 25 years, the Tremblay-Bouchard family has applied [municipal] sludge on their fields, which have totaled as much as 300 hectares. They have also historically spread paper mill sludge." The municipal biosolids they use are from Saguenay. Jacques

Tremblay said: "'I use a manure spreader. I warn neighbors, and I consider the winds and days off. It is tilled into the soil the same day, beginning with fields near houses and respecting the regulatory setbacks of 100 m from them.' Some neighbors were bothered by the different smell, at first, he said....'Our organic matter has increased since we've been using the biosolids. For this reason, we no longer till in our cereal straw - we can sell it....' Some 5% of Quebec farms (3.6% cropland) received biosolids and other residuals in 2012."

**Public upset about Class B biosolids land application continues in western New York.** Recently, two local [opponents worked with local legislators](#) to [introduce a bill](#) in the state legislature. [NEBRA responded.](#) The bill is not likely to go far. Also, the NY Dept. of Environmental Conservation was asked to revoke biosolids permits, but, after review of the situation, they rejected the request, finding no reason to do so.

**Biogas to Transportation Fuel is the topic of WEF free webinar June 23rd.** [Details here.](#) This topic is gaining great interest; see also the Energy Vision report: ["Turning Waste into Vehicle Fuel."](#)

**ISO, the international standards organization, has convened a [working group](#) to develop standards for sludge/biosolids management.** Led by France, the project includes active participants from Canada, the UK, Australia, and 13 other countries. The 13 observing countries include the U. S. and New Zealand. A meeting of the group will be hosted in Burlington, ON on September 8 - 12, 2014. The first day will be a



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workshop open to anyone interested and featuring presentations on solids management from around the world. [Registration](#).

**American Biogas Council recognized a renewable energy collaborative project Ridgewood, New Jersey, with the ABC "Biogas Project of the Year Award.** NEB member Natural Systems Utilities worked with the town and several partners to optimize digestion, combined heat & power systems, and efficiencies to provide almost all of the energy needed to run the wastewater treatment operations. [More....](#)

**There is value in gaining recognition of biosolids as a registered fertilizer product.** Lystek has received [another fertilizer registration](#).

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