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Distilled biosolids and residuals news for New England and eastern Canada

August 2013						
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“The ground’s generosity takes in our compost and grows beauty! Try to be more like the ground.” - Rumi

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- **Website Update:**
www.biogasdata.org
- **North East Biosolids and Residuals Conference**
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EVENTS

- **September 10: LAWPCA Open House and Workshop, Auburn, ME:**
[Details](#) and [Registration](#).
- **September 11 - 13: Canadian National Compost Conference, Toronto, ON:** [Details](#) and [Registration](#).
- **October 29 - 30: The 2013**



The New Anaerobic Digesters at LAWPCA are attracting attention; come and see them on September 10, 2013.

Energy Generation at the LAWPCA Facility, in Lewiston, ME.

Registration will begin at 7:30 am, followed by a 90-minute tour of the facility. The tour is open to WWTP professionals, consultants and engineers who would like to see the new anaerobic digesters in action. There is no charge for the tour, but please preregister [here](#). The workshop, which follows the tour, will cover biogas, co-digestion, stakeholder concerns, and financing. Come join us, celebrate LAWPCA’s upgrades, see the system in action and take away enough information to understand anaerobic digestion as a potential solution to some of your treatment, energy, or biosolids concerns.

Workshop presenters include representatives from engineering firms involved with the design and operation of anaerobic digesters such as CDM Smith, Hoyle Tanner & Associates, and Woodard and Curran, along with representatives from NEBRA and LAWPCA. Presenters will lead the passport tour of the new LAWPCA systems. Attendees will be able to view firsthand how municipal anaerobic digesters operate and how wastewater biosolids are used to generate electricity.

Did you know that **Anaerobically Digested solids** are often **less odorous** than solids from other types of treatment?

Did you know that **Co-Digestion** increases biogas production, produces **more electricity** and solves disposal of a difficult waste stream?

It’s Explosive! It’s Electric! What is all the BUZZ about Anaerobic Digestion?

**September 10, 2013
Auburn, Maine**

Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control Authority (LAWPCA), Maine Wastewater Control Association (MWWCA), NEWEA, NEBRA, and JETCC are excited to offer a one-day workshop and open house on Anaerobic Digestion (AD) and

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NEBRA Financial Disclosure

As a not-for-profit organization registered in New Hampshire and recognized as tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, NEBRA annually files – to the IRS and the State of New Hampshire – a financial report for the prior year. In July, 2013, NEBRA filed its Form 990-EZ for fiscal year 2012, which ended December 31, 2012. This and prior years' filings are available for members and the public to inspect at any time during normal business hours at 26 Gregg's Way, Tamworth, NH, or through written request for a mailed copy (\$10 fee for non-members). Also available for member and public inspection are NEBRA's application for, and final letter of, exemption under Section 501(c)(3). For more information, contact the NEBRA office (info@nebiosolids.org, 603-323-7654).



MassDEP Releases Draft Organics Waste Ban - Comments Due Friday

As long promised, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has proposed a regulatory change that "would add 'commercial organic material' to the list of materials banned from disposal..., effective July 1, 2014." The amended regulation will be part of 310 CMR 19.017 and related provisions in 310 CMR 19.000. "The department is also making the draft waste ban guidance document for solid waste facilities and guidance for waste haulers and generators available for review and comment...." Public hearings were held in early August. Details are [here](#) on the MassDEP website. The RecyclingWorks website also has [information and guidance](#). Comments are due by Friday, August 23rd.

Meanwhile, Massachusetts has begun the formal process of creating private-public partnerships for construction and operation of anaerobic digestion facilities on state lands, including at the Amherst wastewater treatment plant next to the University of MA. The facilities are intended to help provide capacity for managing the hundreds of thousands of tons of source separated organics - food waste - that will be diverted from landfills when the proposed organics ban goes into effect.

En Brief / en bref...

Quebec's environment ministry has a new report on the production and management of food industry organic waste. Written by Solinov, the report estimates the province's food industry produces 1.3 million tonnes of organics per year, the equivalent of what is generated by households in Quebec or that is generated by the paper industry. However, unlike municipalities and the paper industry, the majority is recycled, mainly as animal feed (nearly 0.9 million tonnes). Two-thirds of organic food residues come from the manufacture of meat products and milk. This study confirms that the food industry is a model of recycling organic materials in Quebec, having for its part already far exceeded the recycling target of 60% for organic matter. (Thanks to Marc Hébert, MDDEP, for this information.)

MaxWest is being represented in Quebec by Mabarex, according to a recent [news release](#). MaxWest operates the one U. S. biosolids gasification facility; it is located in Sanford, FL.

Odor concerns have plagued some biosolids recycling programs in Texas this year ([news article](#), [news article](#)). In response, the TX Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has conducted investigations and held public hearings, according to [news reports](#). TCEQ has been petitioned to prohibit land application of biosolids in some areas and, this fall, will consider what, if any, rule changes to implement.

Efforts to recover phosphorus (P) from biosolids are being made in Switzerland, even though that country has banned biosolids land application since 2008. According to an [article](#) in phys.org, an Austrian company has developed a thermal-chemical process that removes heavy metals from sewage sludge incinerator ash and yields a phosphorus fertilizer. The driver for recovery and cycling of P is the recognition of its limited worldwide supply.

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