

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

**November 30, 2018**

## Help Wanted...

### NEBRA Seeks New Executive Director

Current ED, Ned Beecher, will become Projects Lead. [Details...](#)

## CHECK IT OUT...

NEBRA provided input to the Cambridge, MA City Council environment committee in October, countering concerns raised about co-digestion ([see prior NEBRA story here](#)). On October 30th, NEBRA provided a detailed rebuttal of testimony by [RILES](#) (click to see what

### EPA's Inspector General Reviews EPA's Biosolids Regulatory Program

On November 15th, the U. S. EPA's Office of Inspector General (OIG), an independent review branch of the Agency, released a report reviewing EPA's biosolids regulatory program. The report is OIG's perspective; EPA supports biosolids recycling and disagrees with parts of the report, while agreeing to some recommended improvements.

NEBRA and other organizations have responded to the report.

See the posting in [NEBRA News](#) for more details....

### NEBRA To Conduct Survey of Solids Management in Massachusetts

*Grant awarded by MA Clean Energy Center*

*MA utilities: May will call on you?*



During the next several months, NEBRA will be amassing existing data on the treatment, use, and

their website was like; it is being updated in 2018) and [CLF. Download the NEBRA memo to the City Council.](#)

**PBS News Hour included coverage of the Cambridge food waste diversion program** as part of their series on recycling. See [here](#) (especially at ~3:35).

**Congratulations LAWPCA for EPA Honorable Mention!** This Maine WRRF anaerobic digestion & cogeneration project was singled out as a leading project in the PISCES award competition.

**Public information sessions and farmer support** are key parts of biosolids management programs. A fine example in Pennsylvania was created by leading biosolids practitioner Diane Garvey of Garvey Resources. [Read on...](#)

**Important Quebec biosolids news** is available again from Marc Hébert, the former biosolids coordinator of the environment Ministry. Marc is now consulting - and continuing to write biosolids & residuals news posted on his new website. [Learn what's going on in Quebec](#) (en français).

**A fine example of Biosolids**

disposal of wastewater solids generated in MA; that will be followed by an online survey and phone interviews seeking additional data from wastewater treatment facilities, including qualitative information on obstacles and challenges in solids management. An important factor in securing this mini-bid from CEC was NEBRA's experience in co-leading the national biosolids use & disposal survey published in 2007 (available [here](#) lower left). The current project, scheduled for completion by June 15, 2019, will update data-gathering protocols and allow Mass CEC to understand challenges and opportunities in energy-efficient solids management and potential for anaerobic digestion and cogeneration.



### Alan B. Rubin, 1941 - 2018

Alan B. Rubin, formerly of U. S. EPA, lead author of the Part 503 regulations, died from lymphoma October 25th at the age 77.

NEBRA salutes his life's work, his passion, his integrity, and his good humor. And we wish the best for his family and friends.

In peace.

[More...](#)

### In Brief / en bref...

Words on Water covers biosolids.... How is AD in New England?... Congratulations LAWPCA!... AD addressing climate change.... Synagro operations at Greater Lawrence Sanitary District... Manchester, NH SSI reaches agreement with U. S. EPA.... Grow Greenly Biosolids Plant Pots... Virginia Tech biosolids webinar.... Microplastics.... PFAS & Wastewater / Residuals Conference... [Read it....](#)

**Master Planning & community engagement: Region of Waterloo.** This exceptional public biosolids outreach was the topic of a presentation at our annual conference in Halifax. Look at all they did to engage the community - webinars recorded onto YouTube, a colorful "Strategy at a Glance" document, educational videos, & more. This is an example to follow. [See their website.](#)

**NW Biosolids has creative new biosolids & food loop graphics.** [Check them out!](#)

**Federal agencies collaborate on further food waste reduction efforts.** [Read more...](#)



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## NEWS from NEBRA

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

## A postcard from Austria

"Recent headlines in the news say: 'Greenhouse gas levels in atmosphere reach new record' ([WMO news](#)).... Incineration of water and organics, which can, instead, be used on soil with high benefit, is a driver for increasing CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O in the atmosphere."



– Horst Müller, CEO of Müller Abfallprojekte GmbH, Austria, agricultural engineer & biosolids expert. *Incineration of biosolids and P recovery are [being required in Germany](#) for most utilities in the next few years.*

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