

Subject: Biosolids news - NEBRAMail - April/May 2016
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From: NEBRA
To: ned.beecher@nebiosolids.org

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Upcoming Events

May 27: Vermont Water Quality Day! Celebrate Water as you start your Memorial Day Weekend. Details soon....

[See NEBRA Events page](#)

Updates from Quebec

(Thanks to Marc Hébert, [MDDELCC](#))

Use of Biosolids in Quebec - Several Facts, 2015

- There are ~810 wastewater treatment facilities in Quebec.
- The majority of Quebec municipal biosolids are of high enough chemical quality to allow them to be used on land ([read more, en français](#)).

How About Other Organics?

- Quebec has a goal of recycling all organic residuals from businesses by 2020
- Nearly 300 Quebec communities provide organic waste collection service for their residents. See which ones on this [interactive map](#).

Other Developments of Note:

- Quebec's residuals regulations has a proactive odor classification system. Now a [new guide for best practices in odor management](#) has been published (en français).
- Forest use of biosolids research reported in a 2015 paper in the Canadian Soil Science Society journal found that a one-time application of biosolids 16 - 19 years before had significant benefits to the tree crops and soils and "did not observe strong impacts on soil properties in an undesirable way."

[More on all these items...](#)

CHECK IT OUT...

Want a Truly Sustainable Biosolids Program? [This article from WE & T](#), co-authored by NEBRA members Natalie Sierra and Kevin Litwiller, NEBRA staff, and experts across the continent, summarizes key information on biosolids outreach and communications. Thanks to WEF for making it publicly available!

"From Flush to Flowers:" Last week, a major Portland TV station aired a story about Portland Water District [solids being made into compost](#), making Compost Awareness Week ([ICAW](#)) a great success for Casella Organics and all of us in this field.

Another compost awareness winner was the Institute for Local Self Reliance (ILSR), with its line of [daily compost graphics](#).

Vice, the online magazine, in its *Motherboard* venue, [questioned biosolids use](#) in an article by freelance journalist [Peter Hess](#).

The same *Vice* ran the entertaining, in-your-face [video story](#) about what happens with New York City biosolids in Nov. 2014 (definitely worth viewing!).

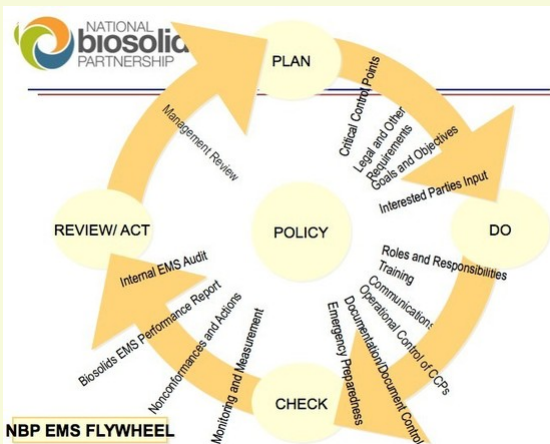
The latest in a series of blogs advocating against biosolids use includes a mention of NEBRA by long-time biosolids opponent Caroline Snyder, PhD (in Germanic Languages and Literature).

Food waste to electricity in Colorado: This [NPR "The Salt" video](#) is yet another recent story of biosolids & food scraps used well.

Food waste diversion in

Reporting from the WEF Residuals & Biosolids Conference, Milwaukee

The industry most people associate with Milwaukee – beer – is all about water. But to those in biosolids management, the most famous thing here is Milorganite®, which is celebrating its 90th year in 2016. Milorganite® was a focus of this year's annual WEF Residuals & Biosolids Conference... [More...](#)



Beyond EMS: Lessons from the First Certified Agency

Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD) in southern California was the first organization to become certified under the National Biosolids Partnership (NBP) Environmental Management System (EMS) program. This from an OCSD news release

Implementing and maintaining the NBP certification over the last 15 years has helped OCSD's biosolids program blossom into an effective, award-winning program that will remain strong. In light of our program's maturation and the strengthened regulatory oversight now in place in Southern California and Arizona, OCSD is developing and utilizing an internal standard. As a result, OCSD withdrew from the NBP certification program in November 2015.... [More...](#)

In Brief / en bref... Some key items to pay attention to!

- Final Federal Implementation Plan for the new U. S. EPA air emissions regulations for sewage sludge incinerators (SSI)...
- Proposed amended standard in Massachusetts for molybdenum (Mo) in biosolids that are land applied...
- Fitchburg, MA is considering reactivating its Westerly wastewater treatment plant for anaerobic digestion...
- Special biosolids edition of NYWEA's *Clearwaters*...
- Court case update: Los Angeles *et al.* vs. Kern County, California
- WERF and WateReuse Research Foundation have merged...
- VT DEC has a new website..
- Water quality continues to be in the spotlight in the Green Mountain State...
- Philadelphia is requiring in-sink disposers in new residential buildings...

[Read the details...](#)

Massachusetts: [new video](#) by RecyclingWorks, starring MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg, stresses the importance of working with all the diverse stakeholders and providing abundant information and support. "Our approach is to educate first."

Tracking community populations and health is another valuable use of sewage, as summarized in this [recent Grist article](#).

NEWS from NEBRA

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

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North East Biosolids and Residuals Association (NEBRA)

P. O. Box 422 • 26 Greggs Way • Tamworth, NH 03886 USA • 603-323-7654 • info@nebiosolids.org

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