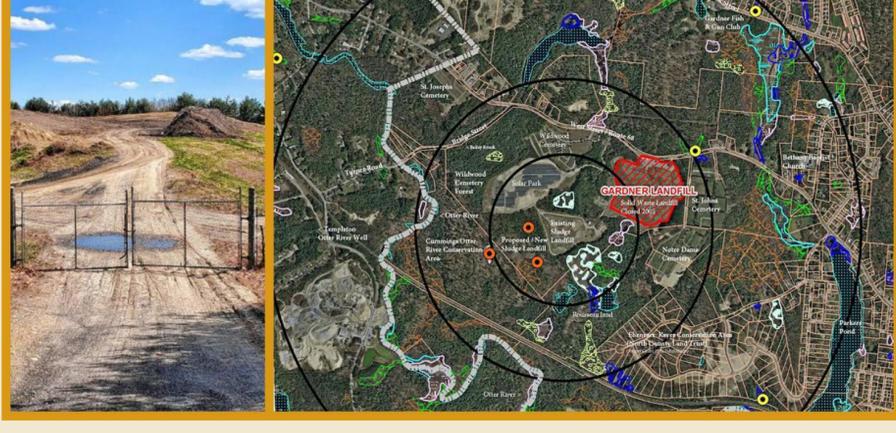


July 28, 2023

City of Gardner's Struggles Reflect Bigger Regional Challenges

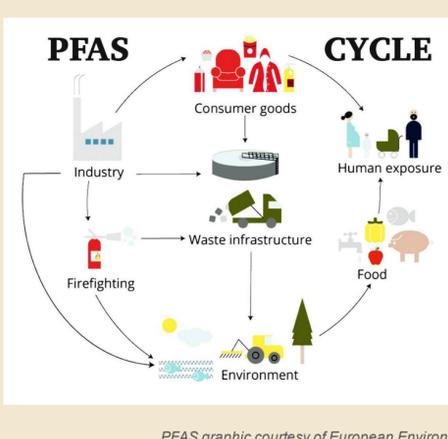
The situation currently playing out in the City of Gardner, Massachusetts, is a microcosm of the situation playing out across the Northeast as options for biosolids management continue to dwindle. Maine has banned land application. Incinerators in Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts, continue to age and have unplanned downtime, disrupting the movement of biosolids out of water resource recovery facilities (WRRFs).



On left: Gardner Sludge Landfill (Photo Credit: Athol Daily news). On right: Map of Proposed Landfill Expansion (Image Credit: Posted on Millers River Watershed Council website).

[Read more...](#)

EPA Biosolids Science Advisory Board Panel Wraps Up Its Work



PFAS graphic courtesy of European Environmental Agency

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s Science Advisory Board (SAB) panel on biosolids held its last meeting on July 5th to finalize their report to EPA. The 36-page draft report includes comments, suggestions, and recommendations for the EPA on its biosolids risk assessment framework.

[Read more...](#)

Ready to Grow: Expansion Potential for Anaerobic Digestion of Food Waste

Anna Meyer for NEBRA

If you're looking to get into the business of turning food waste into easily-transported slurry, now is a good time, and the anaerobic digestion products of bio-gases and nutrient-rich digestate hold untapped value. These are among the insights of four seasoned professionals in the realm of food waste [anaerobic digestion](#) (AD) who made up a panel for [NEBRA's Northeast Digestion Roundtable](#) earlier this year.



[Read more...](#)

En Bref -- In Brief

Northeast Conference on The Science of PFAS – Call for Papers

The Northeast Waste Management Officials Association, in conjunction with NEIWPCC (water) and NESCAUM (air), are planning a second conference on the Science of PFAS: Public Health and the Environment. It will be held April 2-4, 2024, in Marlborough, Massachusetts. The call for papers is open now through Friday, **September 15th**. NEWMOA is also looking for proposals for full sessions (3 presentations). For more information about the conference, go to [Northeast Conference on The Science of PFAS: Public Health & the Environment - NEWMOA - Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association](#), and to submit a proposal, go [here](#).

WEF, NACWA, Others Collaborate on "Correcting PFAS Myths" Fact Sheet

The Water Coalition Against PFAS, which includes the Water Environment Federation (WEF) and the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) as members, recently published a Fact Sheet aimed at dispelling the most common myths when it comes to PFAS in the water environment. [Correcting PFAS Myths: Misperceptions Risk Higher Clean-up Costs for Water Ratepayers](#) is worth sharing! The concern with CERCLA liability is ongoing so please contact your elected officials on this important issue! WEF's Water Advocates program is making it easy for anyone (not just WEF members!) to email their federal delegation: [Take Action Today!](#) (oneclickpolitics.global.ssl.fastly.net).

NEBRA Reg-Leg Committee Continues to Compile Resources

The Regulatory-Legislative Committee for NEBRA continues to be the "go to" resource for members on the latest regulatory and legislative proposals around the region. Julia Wahl of Woodard & Curran is the current Committee Chair but Past Chair Jeff McBurnie is continuing to serve as Vice Chair until someone else is interested in the position. The Committee recently assisted with a [comment letter](#) to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation regarding its proposed limits for PFAS in land-applied biosolids. Check out the Reg-Leg Committee [webpage](#) for more resources. If you are interested in joining this committee, apply here: [NEBRA — Secure](#) (nebiosolids.org).

NEBRA Board is Hard at Work

Ever wonder what the NEBRA [Board of Directors](#) does? These dedicated volunteers have been meeting monthly for years now, creating new committees and programs, updating the Strategic Plan, revising the Bylaws, working on an organizational manual detailing how NEBRA operates, and more! Rest assured, the NEBRA Board is hard at work behind the scenes making NEBRA more sustainable and improving the member experience and value every day. The Board will be looking for member input before finalizing the strategic plan and, of course, members will get to vote on the Bylaws changes. If you ever want to know more about what the Board is working on, check out the Board meeting minutes on the member-only webpage. [NEBRA Members — NEBRA](#) (nebiosolids.org).

NEBRA/MABA Collaborations Benefit Both Organizations

NEBRA and its sister organization to the immediate south, the Mid-Atlantic Biosolids Association ([MABA](#)), have been more closely collaborating for several years now, developing programs and sharing resources to the benefit of its members. The two organizations have some of the same members but the programs and services offered are different. Back in March of this year, MABA and NEBRA signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) regarding member pricing for biosolids-related training. That means that NEBRA members can attend MABA's webinars and conferences for the same price as a MABA member and MABA members can get the NEBRA member price at NEBRA events. More recently, the Executive Directors from NEBRA and MABA collaborated on a presentation at the New York Water Environment Association (NYWEA)'s joint meeting with the New England Water Environment Association in Saratoga Springs, NY, as well as an article about PFAS in Biosolids for NYWEA's member magazine, *Clearwaters*.

CHECK IT OUT!!

[New Podcast! The Straight Flush: It's the Biosolids End Use of the World As We Know It, And We'll be Fine](#)

[Mutant Mayhem Experience](#) (if you're in NY City or Santa Monica through August 1st).

[Raleigh buses will soon be powered by human waste!](#)

["Big, bold idea": Duluth hopes to heat homes with wastewater energy.](#) | MPR News

[Could wastewater power electric cars in the future? Oakland County says yes!](#)

[North America's First Hydrogen-Powered Train Will Debut This Summer](#)

Upcoming Events

August 2: NEIWPCC [Training](#) on Reducing Sludge Volumes Amidst Increasing Disposal Concerns

August 25: [Lunch & Learn](#) about ctec energy technology for biosolids

September 8: [RICWA Annual Trade Show](#), Warwick, RI

September 20–22: [Maine WEA Fall Convention](#), Sunday River, ME

September 22: [Lunch & Learn](#) about the latest advances in PFAS destruction technologies

September 26-28: [Biofest 2023!](#) Campbell's Resort in Chelan, WA

For a complete listing of Events, go to www.nebiosolids.org/events.

[Check Out New Career Opportunities with NEBRA Members](#)

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