The NEBRA Office will be closed July 6 - 17.

June 30, 2018

Happy Canada Day!
Happy July 4th!

CHECK IT OUT...

Two of Vermont’s I-gen (20-somethings) & future educators focus on toilets & access to toilets in this

Tuesday, July 17

BBQ & Baseball
NH Fisher Cats
The League-leaders v. #2 Trenton!

** Vlad Guerrero, Jr. batting over 400! - leads the League!**
preceded by Plant tour: Manchester NH WWTP & SSI

~ a NEBRA Residuals Family Event ~

Details & Tickets...
access to toilets in this podcast, "Flushed Out."

NEBRA's Ned Beecher talks biosolids in WEF Podcast.

NEBRA has been busy this year providing comments on legislation and regulation. See our publications page.

Lise LeBlanc, a residuals management expert in Nova Scotia and NEBRA Board Member, was recognized in June with a Distinguished Agrologist Award by the NSIA. Congratulations Lise!

"We're repurposing the nutrients you leave here with your own daily flush," NMH alum Shelagh Connelly told current NMH students. NMH is a school in western MA that recycled its biosolids to soils last fall, with the help of Connelly's company, RMI. See the story on pp. 42 - 43.

VT's Moretown Landfill pays fine for odors from sewage sludge disposal. Seems biosolids can get into trouble when landfilled.

Mineland reclamation with biosolids advances in Ontario, providing winter outlet for biosolids & residuals. Read about it...

Fine media coverage of Chicago's biosolids program.

Punny odor news about Milorganite, from the

Northeast Digestion Roundtable 2018
Quarterly webinars to share technical operations experiences & advance best practices regarding anaerobic digestion in this region.

July 13, Noon EDT
Matt Higgins, Ph.D., Bucknell
An Update on Co-Digestion Research
Eat lunch. Digest. More...

Updates on PFAS:
Perfluorinated compounds getting attention....

- Politics get involved.
- CDC - ATSDR releases draft PFAS Toxicological Profile.
- EPA hosts PFAS summits with states.
- Meanwhile, Australian health experts find "limited, or in some cases no evidence, that human exposure to PFAS is linked with human disease."
- Meanwhile, NH continues to push ahead of other states on the PFAS issue.
- Understanding where the PFAS issue stands now...

More...

EPA Releases Part 503 Biennial Reviews 2013 & 2015
These Congressionally-mandated reviews evaluate contaminants that may be found in biosolids that may warrant regulation. Both reports conclude that "EPA has not identified any additional toxic pollutants for potential regulation." The reports and related fact sheets are at the U. S. EPA biosolids pages.
EPA Addresses Metals Analytical Lab Method Concern

Jean Creech of the Charlotte (NC) Water biosolids program discovered a possible regulatory Catch-22 when U. S. EPA finalized the new SW-846 6010D method for analysis of elements, including in wastewater solids and biosolids. Labs updating to the new method (replacing the former 6010C method), may not pay attention to certification requirements under state regulations, resulting in analytical data being technically unacceptable.

According to Elizabeth Resek of the biosolids program in the Office of Water in Washington, DC, "there has been some concern... whether a facility is out of compliance with Part 503 requirements if the older 6010C method is used, now that there is the revised 6010D method. Per the 1998 Office of Solid Waste (now the Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery) policy memo, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act SW-846 methods function as guidance. These methods are intended to be used and modified as needed. The newer method 6010D is preferred but not required by the Part 503 Rule. The older 6010C method can still be used and a facility is not out of compliance with its use. Note that methods will be listed under SW-846. When a method is no longer listed, then that method can no longer be used. This is not the case with 6010C."

Biosolids managers are advised to check with their state regulatory agency regarding state lab certification applicable to this issue.

In Brief / en bref...

- New report: Soil pollution:
  “Considering that the positive effects of sewage sludge amendment – such as waste reduction, nutrient cycling, increase of soil fertility, improvement of soil structure and water holding capacity – are significantly more important than the negative effects, efforts should focus on reducing the content of pollutants in sewage sludge and wastewaters.”
has found some impacts in aquatic systems. As is true for many other contaminants, impacts are less likely in biosolids-soil systems, but research is limited, as noted in this Australian article. Meanwhile, there are efforts to reduce microfiber release. Wastewater & biosolids professionals can encourage such efforts - and alternative materials like this microbead work – to protect our products.

More incinerators on the horizon? Minn/St.Paul is adding a 4th....

Research: Water treatment residuals (WTR) reduce phosphorus runoff in Vermont studies.
Research: Nitrous oxide (N2O) emissions happen in agricultural settings, including from biosolids.
Granby, MA residents raised concerns about biosolids and residuals reclamation activity that wasn’t happening.
Politics & biosolids - New York
Keep communicating with neighbors to avoid upsets!
The Global GAP standard - an international guidance for farmers that currently precludes biosolids use...
Organic v. conventionally-grown food: "no meaningful differences"

Read all ... In brief / en bref...

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and get NEBRAMail direct to your inbox!

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