



Advancing *Biosolids*
Environmental Management
Systems in Local **Communities**

NACWA WEF EPA

www.biosolids.org

Week of October 5, 2009 - No. 642



To: NBP Web Site Registrants and Visitors

**From: Sam Hadeed, NBP Office: 703-684-2418 or
shadeed@wef.org**

Subject: Weekly Biosolids Update from NBP

Biosolids Meetings at WEFTEC 2009 in Orlando, FL; Northwest Biosolids Featured in WE and T Magazine; Research Short Story - Fate of Endocrine Disruptors Following Long-Term Land Application of Class B Biosolids and Risks to Public Health; Australian Scientists Turn Waste into Gold; City of Toronto Biosolids Master Plan; This Week in Washington from WEF.

From **Sam Hadeed**, shadeed@wef.org. **Biosolids Meetings at WEFTEC 2009 in Orlando, FL.** The WEF Residuals and Biosolids Committee (RBC) and its five subcommittees will be meeting during WEFTEC in Orlando, FL from October 12-14. All meetings will be held at the Orange County Convention Center (OCCC). Meeting materials follow the schedule.

Monday, October 12, 2009

RBC Specialty Conference Planning Subcommittee

12:30 - 2:00 pm

OCCC, West - Room 203C, Level 2

[Specialty Conference Subcommittee Meeting Materials](#)

RBC Research and Development Subcommittee

2:00 - 3:30 pm

OCCC, West - Room 203A, Level 2

[Research and Development Subcommittee Meeting Materials](#)

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

RBC Bioenergy Technology Subcommittee

8:30 - 10:30 am

OCCC, West - Room 202C, Level 2

[Bioenergy Technology Subcommittee Meeting Materials](#)

RBC Agricultural and Industrial Byproducts Subcommittee

1:00 - 2:30 pm

OCCC, West - Room 203A, Level 2

[Agriculture & Industrial Byproducts Subcommittee Meeting Materials](#)

RBC Outreach & Education Subcommittee

2:30 - 4:00 pm

OCCC, West - Room 203A, Level 2

[Outreach and Education Subcommittee Meeting Materials](#)

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Residuals and Biosolids Committee

7:00 - 9:00 am

OCCC, West - Rooms 104AB, Level 1

[RBC 2009 WEFTEC Meeting Agenda](#)

[RBC Meeting Minutes from Portland, OR 2009 Specialty Conference](#)

[EPA Office of Water Update](#)

[WERF Coordination & TCR Project Update](#)

[View the WEFTEC 2009 On-Site Program](#)

[Top of the Document](#)

From **Maile Lono-Batura**, maile.lono@nwbiosolids.org. **Northwest Biosolids Featured in WE&T Magazine**. The Water Environment & Technology Magazine recently featured the NBMA's story, "***Trials, Tribulation, and Triumph: The tale of biosolids management in the Pacific Northwest.***" NBMA Manager, Maile Lono-Batura, shares the story of how the NBMA was created, how it continues to thrive and results of Pacific Northwest data compiled from the national surveys recently conducted in the U.S. and Canada. Following is the opening paragraph from the article. "*Pacific Northwest weather is synonymous with gray skies and steady drizzle. The climate for biosolids recycling in the Northwest, however, has primarily been a fair-weather tale. From innovative research projects to success public-private partnerships, the Northwest has provided ideal end-use opportunities, active stakeholders, and a supportive regulatory framework.*" [WEF Members click here for access to full online article.](#)

[Top of the Document](#)

From **Northwest Biosolids Management Association**. **Research Short Story - Fate of Endocrine Disruptors Following Long-Term Land Application of Class B Biosolids and Risks to Public Health**. Endocrine disrupting compounds (EDCs) are chemicals that interfere with endocrine glands or their hormones. Among the EDCs present in wastewater, estrogenic compounds have received the most attention due to their well documented detrimental effects in exposed fish. Estrogenic activity in wastewater effluent and in biosolids is due to presence of residual amounts of steroidal hormones, nonionic surfactant metabolites (including nonylphenol), and other types of compounds...[read more Research Short Story](#).

[Top of the Document](#)

From **Australia and New Zealand Science Alert, 10-5-09. Australian Scientists Turn Waste into Gold.** Millions of tonnes of unwanted waste spewed out by Australia's power stations, mineral processing plants and municipalities can be re-used to create fertility, health, wealth, beauty and abundance. Professor Richard Haynes of CRC CARE and the University of Queensland told the CleanUp 09 conference in Adelaide on 29 September of striking progress in developing new uses for substances which have become a real headache for society to dispose of. "A major thrust of our work is to transform industrial and municipal wastes that nobody wants into an environmentally friendly opportunity to make viable and marketable products," he says.

"For example Australia currently produces 13 million tonnes of flyash from coal-fired power generation and a similar quantity of 'red mud' from bauxite processing, along with millions of tonnes of biosolids from urban sewage treatment and green waste from parks, people's gardens, food and factory effluent. "By combining these resources in creative ways we can produce new products to boost fertility, overcome soil deficiencies, absorb toxic contaminants and beautify our urban landscapes," Prof. Haynes explains. "These include garden mulches, organic soil amendments, garden compost, potting media and specially manufactured soils."

Research at CRC CARE has included co-composting green waste with inorganic substances such as coal fly ash and organic resources such as grease trap waste, poultry manure and biosolids. "Because urban green waste usually contains a lot of shredded wood and bark it doesn't break down all that easily. However by adding readily decomposable material, this raises the temperature and produces a much better compost. "By adding 20 per cent fly ash to green waste we can greatly increase its water-holding capacity, producing a topsoil replacement that is highly suitable for use in urban settings where people want to save water."

Prof. Haynes team have also investigated a wide range of inorganic wastes such as steel slag, blast furnace slag, coal fly and bottom ash, red mud, water treatment sludge as well as organic sources such as tree bark, sugar mill mud, spent brewery yeast and prawn processing waste. "We have shown some of the more promising materials can be used to immobilize heavy metals in a metal-contaminated soil. This means we can use industrial wastes to prevent the toxic contamination caused by other forms of waste disposal. "Both sugarcane and rice have a high requirement for silicon in the soil to grow properly – and we have found that slags, red mud, fly ash can all provide this important nutrient to crops at low cost. "Likewise wastewater from dairy and meat processing plants can be used to supply nitrogen and phosphorus to farming soils if applied in the correct amounts. By such methods, Prof. Haynes says, some of society's worst waste problems can be turned into assets, helping to provide food, fertility and healthier landscapes while saving water and preventing pollution.

[#Top of the Document](#)

From **Nancy Martins, biosolids@toronto.ca, 10-1-09. City of Toronto Biosolids Master Plan.** The City of Toronto, Canada has prepared a Biosolids Master Plan recommending strategies for the future management of biosolids generated from the treatment of wastewater at the City's four wastewater treatment facilities. The Biosolids Master Plan is

available for a 30-day public review period starting today October 1 and ending October 30, 2009. [Toronto Biosolids Master Plan](#).

[#Top of the Document](#)

From **Sam Hadeed**, shadeed@wef.org. ***This Week in Washington from WEF. This Week in Washington (TWIW)*** is a free weekly e-newsletter of the Water Environment Federation's Government Affairs Department that is published on Fridays. It provides updates on the latest legislative and regulatory developments affecting the water and wastewater communities. View the [on-line edition](#). You can also bookmark this link for future reference. To receive via email, send your request to the **Editor – Sam Hadeed** at shadeed@wef.org.

[#Top of the Document](#)

Editor's Note: The NBP weekly e-newsletter will be on hiatus next week due to travel to WEFTEC.09 in Orlando, FL. The newsletter will resume publication the week of October 19, 2009.