

BIOSOLIDS COMMITTEE **YEAR END REPORT**

The Biosolids Committee held a Symposium on October 19, 2010 with the purpose of formulating a Biosolids Network. The following is a summary of the results of this symposium

Approximately 25 attendees

Chairperson: Dan Collins, MWRDGC

Other Committee Volunteers:

Albert Cox, Wale Olajeji, Lakhwinder Hundal – All from MWRD

Lorrie Loder, Synagro Technologies

A draft mission statement of the Illinois Biosolids Communications Network was drafted and is as follows: **“Effective and accurate communication among biosolids generators and land appliers to facilitate long term sustainability of land application of biosolids”**.

The goal is, to serve as a forum for biosolids generators and land appliers to continuously improve the long-term sustainability of land application through more uniform procedures and sharing of information on

- Educating the community handling public relations events
- Comply with rules
- Practices to increase environmental benefits
- Improve cost-effectiveness
- Long-term sustainability
- Check IWEA mission statement

Participation

- Our goal is to increase the number of active participants and user
- How do we reach these people?
- Start putting information on the website
- Promote the network at IWEA meetings
- Have community involved – press release from IWEA?
- Organize training sessions to help participants (technical)
- Accessibility of information – improved
- Link to stakeholder companies websites
- Relevance of information to wide range of stakeholders
- Show value, provide CEUs
- Get client list from contractors from IEPA.

Forum for Sharing Information

- Accessibility
- User-friendly
- Chairperson to check with IWEA for hosting website
- Have two sections: Public, and member

Information to share through Network

- Document success stories
- Disapproved fields
- Other entities
- Brochures
- Professionals available for answering questions and presentations
- List of professionals within the network
- GIS showing where biosolids are applied
- Presentations based on type of audience
- Operations
- Testimonials
- Site selection
- Articles
- Past users
- PR cases

A list of land application agencies has been obtained from the IEPA, Jeff Hutton. However, a new list will be requested which is to contain contact name and information. The committee is developing a database/Spreadsheet which will be accessed on the IWEA website by those within the network. For a small fee to join, a network agency can view information related to other agencies and their programs and see a list of disapproved farm fields in the state, the agency which did not approve the farm and comments as to why. Contact name and information will also be provided. The biosolids network is designed to protect the integrity of Beneficial Reuse Programs throughout the state of Illinois.

A follow up meeting was held with key committee volunteers on February 2, 2011.

The Biosolids Committee is presenting a paper on the progress of the network on Monday, March 21 at the IWEA conference. Afternoon Biosolids Session, Presenter Dr. Albert Cox.

Goal for 2011 is to go live on the IWEA website.