



Midwest Biosolids Association Second Annual Conference

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM (Eastern Standard Time)

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

4H Center – THE Ohio State University
2201 Fred Taylor Dr, Columbus, OH 43210

<https://mwbiosolids.org/>

Welcome to a tremendous event for engaging and sharing knowledge for improving management of biosolids. Hear from utilities, land appliers, consultants, and research institutions on their collective efforts for successful projects and programs for sustainable biosolids management. Registration is \$165/person before April 28 (\$180 after), optional dinner (\$55/per person) on Tuesday, May 20 at Brew Dogs, and City of Columbus Facility Tours (free) on Thursday, May 22.

Conference chair:

John W. Norton, Jr., PhD, PE
Great Lakes Water Authority
john.norton@glwater.org

Conference local host:

Stacia Eckenwiler, PE
City of Columbus, OH
skeckenwiler@columbus.gov

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Agenda

May 20 5:30 PM	 RECEPTION SPONSOR
SESSION 1	
SPONSOR	
8:00 AM	Welcome to the Conference John Norton, PhD, PE, Great Lakes Water Authority, Detroit, Michigan
8:05 AM	Midwest Biosolids Association Welcome Dr. Albert Cox, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago Mohammed Haque, Midwest Biosolids Association
8:10 AM	Ohio Welcome Stacia Eckenwiler, City of Columbus, OH Mark Johnson, Ohio EPA
8:20 AM	An overview of the evolving world of biosolids regulations Fredric P. Andes, Partner, Barnes & Thornburg LLP, Chicago, IL
8:45 AM	WS170: The history and future of biosolids land application research Jim Ippolito, PhD, School of Environment and Natural Resources, The Ohio State University Dr. Maria Lucia Silveira, Department of Soil, Water, and Ecosystem Science, University of Florida
9:10 AM	Soil Carbon Replenishment and Sequestration under Biosolids Land Application Guanglong Tian, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
9:35 AM	 NETWORKING BREAK SPONSOR
SESSION 2	
SPONSOR	
10:05 AM	Beneficial Biogas – Lakewood, Ohio’s Design Build Digester Upgrades Timothy McCann, AECOM Todd Schurig, Kokosing Mirko Kucinic, City of Lakewood, OH
10:30 AM	Overhauling Dinosaurs: Upgrading 20th Century Digesters For Next Generation Performance Tom Nangle, Brown and Caldwell Tyler Schweinfurth, City of Columbus, OH
10:55 AM	Achieving Class A Biosolids with Staged Thermophilic Anaerobic Digestion Dave Parry, Jacobs, Heber City, UT Jessica Johnson, Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati, OH Fran Sparer, Jacobs, Cincinnati, OH David Baxter, Jacobs, Cincinnati, OH
11:20 AM	Avoiding the flare: Dayton opens valve to selling biogas on D3 RIN Market through contract with Private Entity Peter Kube, PE, Arcadis, Cincinnati, OH Patrick Ludwig, PE, City of Dayton Department of Water, Dayton, OH

11:45 AM	 LUNCH SPONSOR  KEYNOTE SPONSOR Tech-Driven Transformation: How Innovation is Reshaping Biosolids! Dustin Smith, CEO of Merrell Brothers
SESSION 3	
SPONSOR	
12:40 PM	Regulatory Forum Matt Claucherty, Wisconsin DNR Cory Schultz, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Betsy Sheerin, Ohio EPA Sarah Campbell, Michigan EGLE
1:30 PM	Biosolids 2025 & Beyond Challenges and Benefits a Closer Look Greg Firrantello, Stewart Spreading
1:55 PM	Corporate best practices Andrew Bosinger, Synagro, Ann Arbor, MI Bruce MacLeod, Synagro, Dayton, OH
2:20 PM	Research as a Tool for Utility Management and Planning: Biosolids End Uses & PFAS Matthew Magruder, Marquette University Patrick McNamara, City of Milwaukee, WI
2:45 PM	 NETWORKING BREAK SPONSOR
SESSION 4	
SPONSOR	
3:15 PM	From Vision to Action: Delivering Climate-Smart Capital Projects Dante Fiorino, Brown and Caldwell Stacia Eckenwiler, City of Columbus, OH
3:40 PM	Centrifuge Operational Adjustments Result in Cost Saving Opportunities at NEORS Brian Flanagan, NEORS, Cleveland, OH Adam Parmenter, HDR, Cleveland, OH
4:05 PM	Enhancing High Strength Receiving Through the Integration of 160 ton Biosolids Receiving Station Ben Burroughs, Arcadis, Indianapolis, IN Zak Katter, City of Ft Wayne, IN
4:30 PM	My life in the public sector Ed Moore, City of Toledo, OH (retired)

Conference Benefits

Conference attendees will gain:

- Insights on biosolids management techniques from utilities facing similar incentives and pressures.
- A new (or strengthened!) network to continue championing biosolids beneficial reuse in the Midwest.
- Enhanced understanding of the current research supporting biosolids management and operations.
- The opportunity to provide feedback and guide the growth of our new biosolids association.

Attendees will receive certificates verifying 8 hours PDHs, suitable for licensing requirements (depending on state requirements).

Registration and Sponsorship Opportunities

Conference website: <https://mwbiosolids.org/annual-conference>

Conference registration: \$165 until April 28, 2025 (\$180 after) – [REGISTRATION LINK](#)

Premier Sponsor (\$3,000) Includes Brown Level Conference Sponsorship, Individual Conference Event Sponsorship, Full Communication sponsorship, and Recognition at Business Meeting.

General conference sponsorship opportunities:

- Brown level (\$1,750) includes medium logo and ½ page listing in conference program, 3 free registrations and booth, and conference event sponsorship remaining after premier
- Yellow level (\$1,250) includes small logo and ¼ page listing in conference program, and 2 free registrations.
- Blue level (\$750) includes small logo in conference program and 1 free registration.

Optional Opportunities and Site Tours

- Tuesday, May 20, 2025, reception (\$55) at Brew Dogs
- Thursday, May 22, 2025, Tour of City of Columbus Southerly Water Reclamation Plant and Columbus Biosolids Composting Facility (free)
- Participation in the Tuesday, May 20 stakeholder research session based on space availability

Hotel, Parking, Shuttles

- MBA has group rates set at \$131/night for both the [Hampton Inn](#) and [Hilton Garden Inn](#) on Olentangy River Road. Cutoff date for room rate is April 28, 2025.
- Parking passes (free) at the Gray Parking lots adjacent to the 4H Center are available for all three days.
- Shuttles will be available from the Gray Parking Lots to the off site events (Brew Dogs and City of Columbus Site Tours)