

# Australian and New Zealand Biosolids Partnership E-News

The Australian and New Zealand Biosolids Partnership (ANZBP) supporting sustainable management of biosolids in Australia and New Zealand

Dear ANZBP members and colleagues,

Welcome to the latest edition of the newsletter of the Australian and New Zealand Biosolids Partnership.

A reminder registration for the **AWA Biosolids and Source Management National Conference**, to be held in June 2012 on the Gold Coast, is now available. Additional details are included under *Events* below.

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## Update on ANZBP Activities

### ANZBP Biosolids, Climate Change and Carbon Discussion Paper

A big thank you to all for their contribution to the recent ANZBP Survey exploring the interaction between Biosolids and Climate Change. The survey outcomes will assist with the development of a discussion paper which will be provided to members in the new financial year. If you would like to contribute further to the project please contact the [Project Manager](#).

### ANZBP Roadshows

Roadshows planned for 2012 are now being finalised and dates and locations will be advertised in coming newsletters and on the [ANZBP Website](#). If you would like to hold an event in your region please contact the [Project Manager](#).

### New ANZBP Public webpage - Benefits of Land Application

This page is a general research targeted at those unfamiliar with biosolids management, who wish to know more about the benefits of land application and the risks surrounding various practices. Information on this page may also be of interest to members seeking to develop information for stakeholders including the public and media.

One interesting link is to an educational YouTube video that has come from the Central Valley Clean Water Association in California. The ANZBP page can be found [here](#).

### A reminder that the following resources or resources are available online or from the Project Manager:

- **Community Attitudinal Survey:** The Community Attitudinal Survey Report has been published and is currently being sent out to subscribers in hard copy. This report analyses the outcomes of a community survey process, which identified general community attitudes towards biosolids/ biosolids use.

- **Biosolids Production and End Use Statistics:** This project was undertaken to develop an accurate and comprehensive data-set of Biosolids Production and End Use for Australia and New Zealand. The data provided by WWTPs has been summarised in a report which is now available on the ANZBP Subscribers' website. This information will be updated annually.

- **Biosolids Literature Compendium:** The Literature Compendium documents progress in biosolids management practices and research developments in Australia and New Zealand from the past five years, as well as planned research. The Compendium has proved to be a valuable asset for researchers with technical matters to address, as well as a tool for policy and communications officers. An up-to-date compendium will be published online in mid-2012.

Please feel free to contact [Program Manager](#) should you have any questions regarding the above, or any other queries regarding the ANZBP.

**Please visit the Subscribers section of the ANZBP website for access to the increasing range of ANZBP research reports.**

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## Industry News

### Pathogen Risk Paper published online

ANZBP members and colleagues recently had a paper exploring pathogen risk and conventional treatment practices published in the AWA Water Journal. The article is freely available to AWA member on the [AWA website](#) under *Online Documents*. Formal Paper Citation: Grant, E.J., D.A. Rouch, M. Deighton, S.R. Smith. 2012. Pathogen risks in land-applied biosolids. Evaluating risks of biosolids produced by conventional treatment. AWA Water 39 (1): 72-78.

### Australian Standard AS4454: Composts, soil conditioners and mulches

The new Standard AS4454 for Composts was recently released online and contains information relevant to use of biosolids in composting techniques. The Standard is available for purchase on this [website](#). Please also note the training available under *Events* below.

### **WEF calls for innovative use of biosolids - Position Paper**

The Water Environment Federation (WEF) has approved a revised position statement that calls for 'innovative and beneficial' use of biosolids. The paper can be downloaded [here](#).

### **WERF Pilot Testing: Surveillance and Investigation of the Illness Reported by Neighbors of Biosolids Land Application and Other Soil Amendments**

This study documents the field testing and development of a protocol that can be used to conduct human health investigations in response to reports of illness related to land application of biosolids. The full report to be available soon [here](#).

### **WEF NBP Webinars Online**

The WEF National Biosolids Partnership February and March webinars, featuring "Struvite as a Phosphorus Fertilizer Source for Greenhouse Crop Production" and "Thermal Hydrolysis Comes to America: DC Water's Blue Plains Digestion Project" are now available online. Monthly NBP webinars are held at approximately midnight Australian time, however Power Point PDF files for the webcasts are available for downloading from the [website](#).

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## **Events**

### **AWA Biosolids and Source Management National Conference "Source to Resource: The Input Influences The End Use" 18-20 June 2012, Gold Coast**

The AWA combined Biosolids and Source Management Conference allows for knowledge of the treatment process as a whole and influent contaminants that may reduce the outlets for this reuse. This is essential in understanding the whole life cycle of the system and the potential issues that can arise, not only in treatment but disposal. Source management and biosolids go hand in hand to achieve an integrated solution and this conference will explore both areas and link them together. Registration is available [here](#).

### **Working with the new Australian Standard for Composts, Soil conditioners and Mulches - One Day Training**

The 4th edition of AS4454 was released on 29 Feb 2012 and the revisions are significant. The AS4454 Road Show Training Day will detail the requirements for implementing the new standard in your business, and the requirements for those claiming compliance. The AS4454 Training Day is relevant for manufacturers and distributors, councils and specifiers of recycled organics products. Further information and registration online [here](#).

- Sydney - Fri 1st June
- Brisbane - Mon 4th June
- Melbourne - Mon 18th June
- Adelaide - Wed 20th June
- Perth - TBC

### **17th European Biosolids & Organic Resources Conference & Exhibition - Call for Paper Closes Soon**

This event continues to attract the most authoritative experts in the area of biosolids and organic resource handling, treatment and recycling. With the recovery of energy and resources from organic wastes rising on the waste agenda, the programme will include discussion on issues in handling, treatment and reuse of wastewater derived from biosolids. Co-digestion, enhancing gas production and assessing carbon footprints are also included on the agenda. Further details and registration [here](#).

### **WEF 2013 Residuals & Biosolids Specialty Conference - Call for Abstracts - Nashville**

The 27th Annual WEF Residuals and Biosolids Conference will be held on May 5-8, 2013 at the Nashville, TN Convention Center. The theme of the conference is "Emerging Opportunities for Sustainable Resource Recovery." WEF's Residuals and Biosolids Committee, in cooperation with the Kentucky-Tennessee Water Environment Association, is sponsoring the event. The Conference Program Committee is soliciting abstracts for oral presentations, workshops, and panel discussions to be presented at the conference. For more information visit the WEF [Website](#).

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## **Website Updates - Subscribers pages**

These resources can be found by [logging onto the subscribers section of the website](#) and navigating to the relevant area.

### **Australian Media articles - Newcastle Herald**

The Newcastle Herald has published an article and an editorial discussing biosolids practices in the region. An interesting read to consider opinions and attitudes towards biosolids use. Both pieces can be found on the *Australian & NZ News* pages of the ANZBP Members website.

### **New Case Study - Research**

A new case study has been developed to provide information on the Barwon Water Short Term Biosolids Management Project at Connewarre in Victoria. Providing a brief rundown of the biosolids management practices of that organisation, this case study is likely to be of interest to those undertaking planning now or in the near future.

### Responding to media/community inquiries

This page has been developed in response to requests for assistance in managing media issues and inquiries, particularly in the face of negative media coverage or community concern. Please consider the information on this page to assist you in the development of your media package or develop a strategy to address community concern. Whilst this page is the central resource for media matters, please review the range of other useful information and communications tools on the website. You will need to log-in to the [members website](#) to access this page.

### Case Studies - Technologies

A number of Technology providers have contributed brochures and technical information for publication on the ANZBP. These are available on the members website. The ANZBP is also seeking Case Studies from members. Case Studies are an ideal way to raise the profile of a business's activities, with the objective to publish completed case studies on the ANZBP website. If your organisation is planning, or implementing strategies or activities to manage biosolids issues and you would like to contribute a case study, please email your interest to the Project Manager. A Case Study template has been developed and is available upon request.

### Biosolids and Microbial Safety

The ANZBP believes it is important to demonstrate that the water industry takes microbial safety of biosolids seriously. A new page has therefore been developed (on the members website) which provides a number of resources that have kindly been provided by members. Current resources on the page include:

- Summary of Potential Pathogens in Wastewater or Sludge (June 2011)
- Pathogen risk and nutrient status of air-dried and stored biosolids + Appendices
- Numerous conference papers and presentation

If you are an ANZBP member and require a website password please contact the [Project Manager](#).

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**As specialists working in biosolids management, you are invited to share information on biosolids developments within your locality, as well as resources and activities that may be valuable to other ANZBP subscribers. These contributions, plus your comments on this E-news or the ANZBP website ([www.biosolids.com.au](http://www.biosolids.com.au)) can be forwarded to the ANZBP Project Team - [admin@biosolids.com.au](mailto:admin@biosolids.com.au)**

### From the ANZBP Team

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The email has been sent on behalf of the Australian and New Zealand Biosolids Partnership by:

AUSTRALIAN WATER ASSOCIATION  
ABN: 78 096 035 773  
Level 6, 655 Pacific Highway, St Leonards, NSW, 2065  
+61 2 9436 0055, Fax +61 2 9436 0155  
[www.awa.asn.au](http://www.awa.asn.au)