



Mid-Atlantic Biosolids Association

2012 Membership Letter

October 15, 2011

Thanks for Your Continued Support

We appreciate your continued support of the Mid-Atlantic Biosolids Association (MABA) in helping to fund our activities for 2011.

With your support and the addition of new members throughout 2011, MABA has retained the services of our Executive Director, Bill Toffey. His work this year has increased our presence in the region and nation, and our activities have increased the value of MABA membership.

As you are aware, 2011 saw the introduction of higher membership dues, which have allowed MABA to establish a sound financial balance, and dues for 2012 are retained at the same level as 2011. The change in dues in 2011 were the first such increase since MABA's inception in 1997.

We are sending the membership invoices at this time in order to align with the budget process for our municipal members.

PLEASE NOTE INVOICES ARE NOT DUE UNTIL JANUARY 1, 2012. Early payment is appreciated, but we will not contact members regarding invoice payment until after January 30, 2012.

We are not depending solely on member dues to support our activities. Seminar income was a second source of funds, significant, and MABA's Executive Director is participating in both a WERF and a WEF project along with a team of other consultants and regional biosolids associations. The initiative to pursue sponsorship income has not been vigorously pursued, but with the expansion of social and business networking over the Internet this past year, new models of income generation will be explored.

MABA's mission remains *"To cooperatively foster public understanding and environmentally sound management of biosolids."* MABA has taken a leadership role in insuring that biosolids will be widely recognized as a valuable resource in the Mid-Atlantic states and will continue to improve its service to our members. Activities in 2010 and 2011 include:

Pennsylvania

- Continue to monitor anti-biosolids activists and legislative efforts to restrict land application.
- Work with the National Association of Waste Transporters in the design of a field course in land application of residuals.
- Work with PWEA Biosolids Committee to improve communication on residuals issues.

Maryland

- Working with contractors and utilities to provide input to proposed regulatory changes.

New Jersey

- Presented a full day biosolids session at the NJWEA Annual Meeting, which was very well attended.
- Presented a greenhouse gas accounting workshop in 2010, with key presentations posted to the MABA website.

New York

- Participate in the NYWEA biosolids session at its annual conference.
- Supported a focus group examining barriers to biogas utilization in fulfillment of a study funded by the Water Environment Research Foundation.

Virginia

- Continued with a strategic partnership with Virginia Biosolids Council.

Regional and National Issues

- Initiated a member newsletter on Constant Contact, and expanded its reach to 800 recipients.
- Improved website content and increased social networking outreach to members with Twitter and Facebook.
- Participated in the WEF Biosolids Specialty Conference in Sacramento.
- Joined a project team assembled to survey WWTPs with anaerobic digestion facilities in the U.S.
- Organized a two-day seminar on sustainable biosolids technologies, with a tour of a solar drying facility in Kent County, Delaware.

One change this year was the option for members to include as many employees as they wish on the MABA mailing list, increasing the dissemination of the latest biosolids developments and news. By involving more of your staff in MABA activities, your organization will see increased value in joining and supporting MABA. Also, an class for individual membership has been added for those persons whose employer elects to not join as an organization.

Opportunities present themselves regularly to support biosolids beneficial use in the face of local opposition. Increasingly national organizations are behind local opposition groups, many of which have a goal to end all beneficial use options, including Class A products. We biosolids professionals are most effective if we proactively reach out to our communities and respond to concerned citizens. By supporting groups like MABA, you leverage your resources and have the assistance you need to address these issues.

MABA has taken concrete steps to improve member services and our Executive Director has been instrumental in moving us forward. We hope you will continue to support MABA, and will take advantage of the new sponsorship opportunities. I look forward to working with you in 2012.