

Code of Good Practice

The Code of Good Practice ("the Code") is a broad framework of goals and commitments to guide the production, management, transportation, storage, and use or disposal of biosolids -- in short, a comprehensive environmental management system (EMS) for biosolids. Those who embrace the Code and participate in the EMS commit to "do the right thing." Code subscribers and EMS participants pledge to uphold the following principles of conduct:

COMPLIANCE: To commit to compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local requirements regarding production at the wastewater treatment facility, and management, transportation, storage, and use or disposal of biosolids away from the facility.

PRODUCT: To provide biosolids that meet the applicable standards for their intended use or disposal.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM: To develop an environmental management system for biosolids that includes a method of independent third-party verification to ensure effective ongoing biosolids operations.

QUALITY MONITORING: To enhance the monitoring of biosolids production and management practices.

QUALITY PRACTICES: To require good housekeeping practices for biosolids production, processing, transport, and storage, and during final use or disposal operations.

CONTINGENCY AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS: To develop response plans for unanticipated events such as inclement weather, spills, and equipment malfunctions.

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND OPERATIONS: To enhance the environment by committing to sustainable, environmentally acceptable biosolids management practices and operations through an environmental management system.

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE: To prepare and implement a plan for preventive maintenance for equipment used to manage biosolids and wastewater solids.

CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT: To seek continual improvement in all aspects of biosolids management.

COMMUNICATION: To provide methods of effective communication with gatekeepers, stakeholders, and interested citizens regarding the key elements of each environmental management system, including information relative to system performance.