

PFAS Toxin Transfer

Sewage Sludge Wastes and America's Food Future

- * Sewage sludge and biosolids - the solid and liquid remains from waste water treatment plants - are **marketed as a landscape and lawn care fertilizer soil amendment to farmers, home gardeners, playgrounds and parks**;
- * The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (**EPA**) **2018 report** knowingly states, "Unable to Assess the **Impact of Hundreds of Unregulated Pollutants** In Land-Applied Biosolids **on Human Health**" and further;
- * **2019 EPA reports "discover" releases of hazardous substances** from Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) are inaccurate, thus the public is not receiving reliable information about environmental conditions affecting human health.
- * The EPA only regulates 10 heavy metals and two indicator bacterias in sludge/ biosolids; national survey of contaminants found in sewage sludge wastes include 27 **heavy metals**, dozens of **pharmaceuticals**, several **steroids and hormones**, and highly **toxic flame retardants**, which bioaccumulate in soil, plants, and animals.
- * **PFAS** - Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl - **are man-made, flame retardant** "forever chemicals" that are **bioaccumulative and toxic at low concentrations levels**.
- * The use of PFAS in thousands of commercial and industrial applications and products has resulted in **detectable concentrations in sewage sludge wastes found in drinking water, soil and vegetation** throughout the country;
- * **WEF** - the "Water Environmental Federation" sewage membership organization - **recognizes that PFAS contamination** is transferred into communities via solid and liquid sewage sludge wastes which contaminate **air, water, soil and foods**.
- * Farms throughout the nation are experiencing **PFAS contamination of livestock and plants that we consume** from years of sewage sludge/biosolids use as a "fertilizer", creating long-term implications to our food, water and communities.
- * In June 2019, **FDA** - Food & Drug Administration - confirmed **PFAS in food**, including meat, seafood, dairy products, fruits and vegetables from sewage sludge/biosolids.
- * **Lack of national leadership for testing requirements and enforcement of hazardous chemicals like PFAS** - linked to both solid and liquid sewage sludge/ biosolids - has forced states, including Maine and New York, **to create stricter regulations for sludge/biosolids use**. Where is YOUR state regulations?
- * **Lack of national leadership** regulations of hazardous chemicals like PFAS **will create "throwaway zones"**: communities with less political clout or willpower will become the dumping grounds for America's industrial waste.
- * America's food, farms, families and future deserves better. **Stronger regulations of sewage sludge/biosolids; invest in alternative uses; control chemical contamination BEFORE it reaches our waste stream**.

Information Complied: [United Sludge Free Alliance/usludgefree.org](http://UnitedSludgeFreeAlliance.usludgefree.org)/610-823-8258