

Everett's role in biosolids recycling

The City of Everett generates and recycles biosolids in forestry, agriculture and soil improvement projects. Everett is a member of the [Northwest Biosolids Management Association](#), which provides collaborative research, technical assistance, and public information for biosolids managers in the region.

Vision statement

To provide environmentally responsible stewardship of the City's biosolids in a cost-effective manner, providing open communication with all stakeholders, innovative thinking, and seeking strategic partnerships with other organizations to facilitate a sustainable program.

Mission statement

The Everett Biosolids Management Program cost-effectively manages the City's biosolids, protects public health and environment, is supportive of the local community, and seeks the public's trust by providing education and open communication.

Strategic planning

Everett and our consultant, HDR Engineering Inc., have started the planning process to develop a Long Range Strategic Plan for the Biosolids' Program. A long term plan will provide a vision, a strategy and an implementation plan to assure the long term sustainability of the biosolids' program. During the process, we will identify needs, risks and adaptations to improve the existing program. A group of stakeholders has been formed and consists of:

- Representatives from neighborhood community groups
- Local industry
- Agricultural community
- Local representative from an environmental group
- Treatment plant staff

The planning process will take several months and it is our intent to post relevant documents developed during the planning process and information presented during meetings with stakeholders on this web page.

The process

At the treatment plant, tiny microorganisms eat the waste in the wastewater and settle to the bottom of the lagoons once they die. These dead microorganisms are called biosolids. The biosolids are removed from the lagoon and dried, leaving a semi-solid material ready for recycling.

Control

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued its biosolids rule in 1993. EPA and a panel of scientists with biosolids expertise examined all aspects of biosolids in the environment, including potential effects on ground water, air and soil quality, surface runoff, and food crops. The biosolids rule set quality limits for trace metals and requires pathogen and odor reduction.

Who to contact

Contact **Rick Bailey**, Biosolids Manager, at 425-257-7823 or [email](#) for more information.