

# The Importance of Communicating with Stakeholders About CECs

NEWEA CEC/Innovation Webinar Series

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WORKING FOR WATER QUALITY

# You Cannot Avoid Emerging Concerns About Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CECs)



# Others Are Framing the Debate

## Toxic chemicals can be dumped into Merrimack River, federal and state officials say

By [David Abel](#) Globe staff, November 5, 2019, 6:41 p.m.



## 'Forever chemicals' are found in MWRA fertilizer, drawing alarm

By [David Abel](#) Globe Staff, December 1, 2019, 7:32 p.m.



The Presque Isle Utilities District's wastewater lagoons off Lathrop Road in Presque Isle. The organization will have to stop spreading wastewater sludge held in the lagoons after soil tests from its hayfields found PFOS chemicals above the state-set threshold. (Anthony Brino)

## Toxic sludge could jack up sewer bills 24 percent in Presque Isle

[Nina Mahaleris](#) • October 10, 2019

Residents could see a 24 percent increase in their sewer bills so the Utilities District can handle its toxic sludge after receiving legal notice from the Utilities District Sewer Division.



# Always on the Defensive

## Lowell To Stop Accepting Wastewater From New Hampshire Landfill



Lowell's Duck Island Clean Water Facility will immediately stop receiving contaminated wastewater, called leachate, from a landfill in New Hampshire. Joanne Rathe/Boston Globe via Getty Images



### LETTERS

## Group is on the front line of water quality protection

Updated December 5, 2019, 5:59 p.m.



The article [“From sludge to fertilizer to growing fears”](#) (Page A1, Dec. 2) focused on a relatively minor aspect of the PFAS issue. Per- and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals unfortunately are widespread in the environment from decades of consumer use in myriad products. This includes detectable levels [in soils](#) and [human blood](#). PFAS levels in Massachusetts Water Resources Authority fertilizer are not much different from levels in food waste compost or septic systems. Levels in household dust are [four times higher](#) and a more likely source of exposure.

Using biosolids makes soils healthier, reduces irrigation requirements, and reduces atmospheric carbon

# Why You Need to Get Involved in the Conversation



It's your responsibility as a member of the clean water community and as a citizen of the world



If you have to raise rates, your customers might not like it but they will understand it

**“The way to change the world is through individual responsibility and taking local action in your own community.”  
– Jeff Bridges**

Start NOW!



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am i  
making  
myself  
clear?

A SCIENTIST'S GUIDE TO  
TALKING TO THE PUBLIC