Biosolids fact sheet



Spreading

- Spreading can only commence when weather conditions permit, namely not during or prior to rainfall events or strong winds
- Biosolids are applied to land with <12% slope, subject to soil conservation measures
- Biosolids are not spread within areas of environmental significance
- All spreading activities are undertaken in accordance with DWER and DoH approvals
- Prescribed buffer distances are applied to reduce risk and protect water resources

Storage

- Stockpiles need to be located on flat ground and away from waterways and sensitive premises
- If stored for extended periods, the stockpile must be secure, have drainage controls and bunding
- All storage and applications site must be adequately sign posted
- Subject to the time of the year, stockpiles need to be inspected for fly breeding and management actions implemented if fly breeding is detected

Transport

- Biosolids should be spade-able to ensure stability whilst being transported
- Biosolids trailers have grain locks, watertight seals and sealed tarps to reduce the risk of odour and uncontrolled discharges
- Each trailer is washed down prior to leaving farm to reduce risk of biosolids carryover

Application

- Biosolids application rates are limited by nutrient or contaminant levels based on background soil levels, crop requirements and biosolids quality
- When spread, biosolids should be incorporated into the soil within 36hrs or otherwise when environmental conditions permit
- Livestock should be excluded from biosolids stockpiles and paddocks, and stock withholding periods apply
- Accurate records are maintained specific to volumes, quality, and application rates / area
- All persons handling biosolids are made aware of the risk and OHS requirements

Guideline

Link to the WA Guideline for Biosolids Management

Enquiries

For all enquiries, please call the Water Corporation on 13 13 75.

