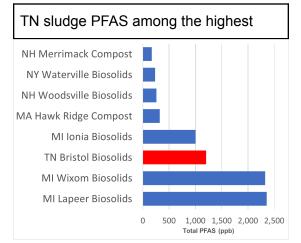
Tennessee Has a PFAS Problem

Discharges of PFAS are contaminating Tennessee's lakes, rivers and lands

- Extremely high levels of PFAS have been measured in Tennessee Wastewater Treatment Plant sludge applied to land
- High levels of PFAS are contaminating Tennessean's drinking water
- Tennessee does not understand the scope of the pollution
- Farms across in other states have been shut down
- TN Attorney General knows PFAS are a problem and is suing manufacturers over PFAS contamination



Tennessee's open lands and waters are at risk of permanent contamination



We need to understanding the PFAS problem

- End land application of contaminated biosolids
- Test discharges, influent and solids from sources
- Control upstream sources
- Update NPDES permits to require monitoring for PFAS

What are PFAS - Per and poly fluorinated alkyl substances

- A class of toxic chemicals commonly referred to as "forever chemicals" because of their persistence in the environment.
- Many accumulate in tissues of people, crops, livestock and wildlife.
- PFAS are currently used in many consumer products (stain and water resistant clothing and outerwear, food wrappers, packaging, carpeting, furniture, personal hygiene products) disposed of in landfills and wastewater.
- Used in industrial processes (metal plating, electronics, fire fighting foams).

Wastewater treatment plants are significant dischargers of PFAS

- Accept PFAS contaminated wastewater, leachate, from landfills and industrial sources
- PFAS are not removed during standard treatment
- PFAS ends up in the water discharged to rivers and lakes and the solid sludge applied to land
- WWTPs can require dischargers to eliminate the use of PFAS or pretreat wastewater influent





PFAS in the News

- 'I don't know how we'll survive': the farmers facing ruin in Maine's 'forever chemicals' crisis
- Texas farmers claim company sold them PFAS-contaminated sludge that killed livestock
- 'Forever chemicals' upended a Maine farm and point to larger problem
- More than 50 Maine farms impacted by PFAS, but state officials see 'glimmer of hope'
- Toxic PFAS are Everywhere, and Remain Largely Unregulated
- Report: record levels of 'forever chemicals' in NE Tennessee sewage sludge used as crop fertilizer
- Report: 'Forever chemicals' in northeast TN pose longterm risk to region's drinking water
- Forever Chemicals and Agriculture Case Study
- VICE Spotlights the Demise of a Century-Old Cattle Farm Due to PFAS Contamination
- PFAS in Biosolids Prompt Lawsuits