AGENDA AT-A-GLANCE

DAY 1: MONDAY, SEPT. 28, 2026

Biofest Registration — 3:30 - 6:30 PM

Boulder Park Tour (pre-registration required) — 1:00 - 4:45 PM
Jake Finlinson, King County & Dave Ruud, Boulder Park

Workshop | Effective Communication in High-Stress, High-Concern Situations and Environments. — 3:30 - 5:00 PM

Join us to explore key principles & theories that support effective communications in high-stress, high-concern situations & environments. You will be introduced to core principles, theories, and tools aimed at increasing your communication effectiveness when engaging with audiences and stakeholders who are feeling stress or concern.
Benjamin Morgan, M.A, Senior Fellow, Center for Risk Communications

BREAK — 5:00 - 5:15 PM

Biofest 2026 Kickoff and Vendor Social Hour — 5:15 - 7:30 PM

DAY 2: TUESDAY, SEPT. 29, 2026

Registration and Breakfast — 7:00 - 8:00 AM
(Breakfast Provided)

Biofest 2026 Welcome — 8:00 - 8:30 AM

BREAK — 8:30 - 8:35 AM

SECTION: Putting your biosolds where your mouth is
Moderator: Valerie Ward

Discussing Disgust — 8:35 - 8:55 AM
Dr. Sally Brown, University of Washington

Oak Harbor Banana Tree — 9:00 - 9:20 AM
Cory Prusha, Oak Harbor Clean Water Facility

BREAK — 9:20 - 9:35 AM

KEYNOTE: **Return Home** — 9:35 - 10:35 AM
Jake Miller, Return Home, Moderated by Dr. Sally Brown

SECTION: Operator Hour
Moderator: Deidre Bartlett

BREAK — 10:35 - 10:50 AM

Operator Hour Stories — 10:50 - 11:55 AM

Lunch & Ambassador Recognition — 11:55 - 1:00 PM
(Lunch Provided)

SECTION: 5 Senses - Smells like, Tastes Like, Looks Like...
(Moderator: Landon Reigelman)

Is dry right for you? Kennewick has started solar drying their biosolids. See how it is working here. — 1:00 -1:20 PM
City of Kennewick & Merrell Bros

Evaluating Soil Health and Carbon Dynamics under Dryland Wheat-Pea Rotations with Biosolids-Based Compost Application — 1:25 -1:40 PM
Ava E. Heathman, WSU-LDRS, Agricultural Research Tech., Graduate Student

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Nine Years Later: How Biosolids Still Shape Soil Microbial Communities and Impact Soil Health in Dryland Cropping Systems *Asmita Bhandari, Graduate Student, Washington State University*	1:45 -2:00 PM
Farmer Panel: Nuts & Bolts *Will Bowdish, Goldendale, WA | More speakers to be announced!*	2:05 - 2:35 PM
BREAK	2:35 - 2:50 PM
Informally Ask an Expert - Table Talks Get facetime with experts on real world issues common to just about every program.	2:50 - 3:30 PM
BREAK	3:20 - 3:30 PM
SECTION: Research *Moderator: Jori Nelson*	
Soil Health *Deirdre Griffin LaHue, PhD, Washington State University*	3:30 - 3:50 PM
Nutrient Circularity and Public Health *Katie Webb, University of Washington*	3:55 - 4:15 PM
Long-Term Accumulation of Microplastics in Soils due to Land-Application of Biosolids *Markus Flury, PhD, Washington State University*	4:20 - 4:40 PM
2026 BIOFEST FUN RUN	5:15 PM
2026 BIOFEST BANQUET *(Dinner provided)*	6:30 PM
CAMPFIRE *(Weather permitting)*	POST BANQUET

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 30, 2026

Breakfast *(Breakfast provided)*	7:30 - 8:30 AM
SECTION: Nuts & Bolts *Moderator: MacLeod Pappidas*	
Micronized Calcium Carbonate Pilot leads to Pleasant Surprises in Biosolids Production *Chris Maher, Clean Water Services, OR*	8:30 - 8:50 AM
Polymer Fundamentals *Ed Fritz, Jacobs*	8:55 - 9:15 AM
SOLAR Dryer: the Good, the bad, and the Ugly! *Ken Windram, Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board*	9:20 - 9:40 AM
Pima's Plural Purposes for PONDUS *Adam Parmenter, HDR, Inc.*	9:45 - 10:05 AM

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Beyond the Burn: Evaluating Sustainable Alternatives to Biosolids Incineration — 10:10 - 10:30 AM
Brian Walker & Corrin Hamburg, City of Anacortes

SECTION: Nuts & Bolts
Moderator: MacLeod Pappidas

BREAK *(Check out if needed)* — 10:30 - 10:45 AM

From paper to the plant... Does it really get the phosphorus out? Real life stories about struvite removal. — 10:45 - 11:15 AM
Deidre Bartlett, Ben Nydegger, Dan Freedman

BREAK — 11:15 - 11:25 AM

SECTION: Sticking Around: PFAS, the forever topic
Moderator: Valerie Ward

National Collaborative PFAS Project Update — 11:25 - 11:40 AM
Dr. Ian Pepper, University of Arizona

Biosolids and Public Health — 11:45 - 12:05 PM
Holly Davies, DOH & Shirlee Tan, King County

Past, Present, Future | PFAS Sampling Project — 12:10 - 12:30 PM
Emily Kijowski, Washington State Dept. of Ecology

LUNCH — 12:30 - 1:30 PM
(Lunch provided)

SECTION: Workshop
Moderator: Dr. Sally Brown

Know the Answer Before You Ask the Question — 1:30 - 2:45 PM
This workshop will go over working with Consultants and tips, tricks & tools for doing the internal work first. We will discuss how to figure out if your treatment train works for you or if changes are needed.
Manon Fisher, Brown and Caldwell

ADJOURN — 2:45 PM

SAVE THE DATE FOR BIOFEST 2027
Sunday, October 3, 2027 – Tuesday, October 5, 2027
Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, WA