

**April 7, 2021**

**MassDEP monthly call with wastewater treatment plant operators**

**CHAT TRANSCRIPT**

00:10:41 Kathleen Baskin: Upcoming EPA Webinars

Thursday April 29, 2021 (1-2:30pm EST)

Biosolids Part 1: Overview of Wastewater Treatment Sludge and Clean Water Act Regulatory Structure

Presenter: TBD

Registration: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4720414937494119695>

Thursday May 27, 2021 (1-2:30pm EST)

Biosolids Part 2: Wastewater Treatment Sludge Disposal Methods (Land Application, Incineration, Landfilling)

Presenter: TBD

Registration: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7376820736549880079>

00:10:56 Jeff Murawski:

MA DPH resources to help combat & overcome "vaccine hesitancy" or "anti-vax" mindsets?

00:13:20 Stephanie Cooper, MassDEP:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/trust-the-facts-get-the-vax-campaign-materials>

00:13:42 Stephanie Cooper, MassDEP:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-frequently-asked-questions>

00:13:55 Kathleen Baskin:

Here is a DPH resource with helpful information about vaccine safety --

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/trust-the-facts-get-the-vax>

00:14:29 jkalmes:

as more and more people get vaccinated, will that change the results of the Covid testing done in wastewater?

00:16:41 Kathleen Baskin:

Sign up for the pre-registration (<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/preregister-for-a-covid-19-vaccine-appointment>), if you haven't already. There are a number of other sites across the Commonwealth here (<https://vaxfinder.mass.gov/>), and folks can proactively look for slots.

00:20:24 Kathleen Baskin:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/trust-the-facts-get-the-vax>

00:21:40 Wendy Reed:  
mRNA is what's being analyzed for

00:23:40 Kathleen Baskin:  
<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/trust-the-facts-get-the-vax>

00:25:14 Lealdon Langley MassDEP:  
I saw a very informative Vox video about efficacy. Here's info on comparisons of efficacy rates: <https://www.vox.com/22311625/covid-19-vaccine-efficacy-johnson-moderna-pfizer>

00:26:25 Jeff Murawski:  
Thanks, Lealdon!

00:27:52 Denny Dart, EPA:  
Compliance Tips for Small, Mechanical Wastewater Treatment Plants  
<https://www.epa.gov/compliance/compliance-tips-small-mechanical-wastewater-treatment-plants>

00:36:38 Jennifer Pederson, Mass Water Works Assoc.:  
This question was posed to me this morning...could DEP provide an update on the status of DEP getting back to in-person inspections and processing permits, etc that may require staff to access to the office

00:38:38 lindas:  
There is currently a bill that is trying to get 3 years added to retirement for state employees. Has anyone been advocating to get municipal operators included in this bill?

00:40:39 Jeff Murawski:  
"CSO Notification Bill" updates?

00:42:38 WBranton:  
Operators could call the offices working on the bill and petition directly for inclusion

00:42:59 Jennifer Pederson, Mass Water Works Assoc.:  
It includes "political subdivisions" which I believe includes municipalities

00:45:05 Jeff Murawski:  
Monday was more for CSO NPDES Permittees,

00:47:51 Denny Dart, EPA:  
<https://www.mass.gov/guides/sanitary-sewer-systems-combined-sewer-overflows>

00:49:54 WBranton: Thank you, take care y'all