

British Columbia's Regulatory Framework for Biosolids*

Environmental Management Act (EMA) & Public Health Act	Agricultural Land Commission Act	Local Government Act
Organic Matter Recycling Regulation (OMRR)	ALR Use, Subdivision and Procedures Regulation	



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes 5 biosolids categories: (1) Class A (2) Class B (3) Class A compost (4) Class B compost (5) Biosolids Growing Medium; • Sets out requirements related to the production, distribution, storage, sale and use or land application of all categories of biosolids and biosolids-compost; • Sets out required pathogen reduction processes and limits, vector attraction reduction standards, as well as detailed numeric standards for substance concentrations and soil standards related to: arsenic, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, lead, mercury, molybdenum, nickel, selenium and zinc; • Establishes required sampling and analysis protocols, frequency and record-keeping; • Requires that all sampling and analysis be conducted using "British Columbia Laboratory Methods Manual: 2005 — for the Analysis of Water, Wastewater, Sediment, Biological Materials and Discrete Ambient Air Samples"; • Requires that a Land Application Plan (LAP) is developed and signed by a Qualified Professional prior to any land application of Biosolids Class A, Class B or Class B compost. The operator must notify the Ministry 30 calendar days prior to the planned land application. Additional notifications are required for applications on agricultural land, in a watershed, or on ALR land. • Sets out required information to be included in the Land Application Plan (schedule 7 of OMRR); • Defines acceptable land application methods, including setback requirements, signage requirements and time-delay requirements prior to grazing (60 days) or agricultural activity (18-38 months). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of biosolids, in accordance with LAP under OMRR, is permissible as a fertilizer/soil conditioner on ALR land; • Requires that all ALR biosolids land applications meet OMRR requirements; • Provides the ability for Local Government and/or First Nations to prohibit or regulate production, storage and application of Class A compost if any of the produced compost is used off-farm. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowers Local Government to develop zoning bylaws that regulate use, density, siting, size and dimensions of land and buildings (e.g. composting facilities); • Gives authority to prevent Local Government from prohibiting or restricting the use of land for a farm business in a farming area; • Gives authority to empower Local Government to make farm bylaws to regulate the conduct of farm operations (including land application of biosolids); • Empowers the agriculture minister to set standards for farm bylaws.
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* Other legislation and regulations that should be taken into consideration (although not primarily concerned with biosolids) include: Farm Practice Protection (Right to Farm) Act, The Community Charter, Contaminated Sites Regulation, Waste Discharge Regulation, Drinking Water Protection Act & Drinking Water Protection Regulation, Regulated Activities Regulation, Forest and Range Practices Act, Range Planning and Practices Regulation, the Range Act.