

WaterJAM 2026 Biosolids Beauty Contest Information

Calling all water and wastewater treatment plants, resource recovery facilities, water pollution control plants and drinking water treatment plants! Do you have the best biosolids or residuals in Virginia? Please bring samples of your stabilized biosolids or dewatered residuals to Virginia Beach to enter the Fifth Annual WaterJAM Biosolids Beauty Contest!

- **Biosolids/residuals sample preparation:**

- Prepare a sample of stabilized biosolids or residuals for entry into one or more of the following categories: **Class A Biosolids (fresh/unblended), Class A Biosolids (enhanced), Class B Biosolids (stabilized), Water Residuals (fresh/unblended), and/or Best in Presentation.**
- No need for multiple entries for multiple categories. For example: A single entry can be judged for both Class A AND Best in Presentation.
- Entering is simple! Simply bring your biosolids or residuals sample a jar/bag/box/sample bottle/vessel of your choice, no more than 500 – 1000 mL (to ensure adequate space for all entries), but be sure to submit enough to exhibit the product qualities.
- For the “Best in Presentation Award” contestants are encouraged to be as creative as possible with the displays to show off the material. There is not a space restriction for the displays but depending on the number of contestants, space could be limited. We will do our best to make accommodation for all contestant displays.
- Feel free to decorate, enhance or otherwise beautify your presentation if you would like, making sure that the actual biosolids/residuals can be readily accessed and viewed for judging. See images below for some entries from other competitions for inspiration.

- **Entering your contestant:**

- Bring your entry to the table just inside the Exhibit Hall any time after the Exhibit Hall opens on Tuesday afternoon, September 15th. There will be sign/board designating the table.
- Be sure to fill out the entry form (located on the table) indicating which category(ies) in which the entry is competing.

- Entries are due no later than 9 AM on Wednesday, September 16.
- **Judging:**
 - Judging will take place between 9 and 10:30 AM.
 - A panel of three judges will judge each entry on consistency, quality, dryness, odors, etc.
- **Announcing the winners:**
 - One winner will be selected from each competition category: Class A (fresh/unblended), Class A (enhanced), Class B, Water Residuals, and Best in Presentation.
 - Winners will be announced at 10:45 AM at the Biosolids Beauty Contest Table during the morning break.
- **Competition breakdown:**
 - All entries must be removed from the Exhibit Hall by the end of the afternoon break (4 PM) on Wednesday, September 16.

Thanks for contacting me at stephanie.spalding@hdrinc.com if you plan to participate and if you have any questions.

