



## Anaerobic Digestion About and Schedule

### About the Class

This one-day course is directed at all wastewater treatment plant operators interested in broadening their understanding of the anaerobic digestion process. As the methane in anaerobic digester biogas gets more valuable, more—and smaller—plants will find it economically attractive to construct anaerobic digestion facilities. Indeed, the central role anaerobic digestion plays in wastewater treatment, as embodied in the following operator mission statement, cannot be overemphasized:

“To remove pollutants from the incoming water, while complying with all permit requirements—water, land, and air—and convert them to safe disposable biosolids as sustainably and cost effectively as possible.”

### Objective

It is the objective of this course to improve your understanding of the the anaerobic digestion process and give you some tools to do your jobs more effectively and efficiently.

### Prerequisites

The only prerequisite for taking this class is a desire to have an open mind as to the incredible potential of anaerobic digestion now and in the future of wastewater treatment.

### Recommended Reading

It is recommended you read whatever you can put your hands on, but read to understand.

### About the Instructor

Eric Wahlberg has a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Health from the University of Massachusetts and Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Environmental Systems Engineering from Clemson University. He worked as a wastewater treatment operator in Colorado and Wyoming and earned a Class A wastewater treatment operator's license in Colorado. Eric worked in the Research Department at the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts. Currently, he is a Senior Vice President with a prominent engineering consulting firm for which he has worked for nearly 20 years. Over the past 25 years, Eric has been awarded Water Environment Federation medals for achievement in wastewater research, for significant contributions to operations, and for solving operational problems. *Public Works* magazine identified Eric as a “Trendsetter of the Year” in 2008 for the activated sludge process control and performance tests he has developed over the years. He has written and presented extensively and is a nationally renowned expert in primary and secondary clarifiers and activated sludge process control. In addition, Eric is co-owner of and principle instructor for WasteWater Technology Trainers.



## Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Schedule (7.5 hours of instruction)

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| 8:00 a.m.  | Anaerobic Digestion Overview                        |
| 8:30 a.m.  | Carbon: Wastewater Treatment Overview               |
| 9:30 a.m.  | Break (15 min)                                      |
| 9:45 a.m.  | Wastewater Characterization                         |
| 10:30 a.m. | Primary Clarification                               |
| 11:15 a.m. | AD: Process Objective and Overview                  |
| 12:00 p.m. | Lunch (1 hr)  |
| 1:00 p.m.  | AD: Factors Affecting Performance Break<br>(15 min) |
| 2:30 p.m.  | AD: Factors Affecting Performance (cont.)           |
| 2:45 p.m.  | AD: Factors Affecting Performance (cont.)           |
| 3:30 p.m.  | Combined Heat and Power                             |
| 4:00 p.m.  | Struvite and Nutrient Recovery                      |
| 4:30 p.m.  | Thermophilic & Phased Digestion                     |
| 5:00 p.m.  | ADJOURN   |