

## **HOW SAFE IS CLASS B SEWAGE SLUDGE? (according to the TCEQ)**

Texas Administrative Code  
TITLE 30 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
PART 1 TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
CHAPTER 312 SLUDGE USE, DISPOSAL, AND TRANSPORTATION  
SUBCHAPTER D PATHOGEN AND VECTOR ATTRACTION REDUCTION  
RULE §312.82 Pathogen Reduction

### **(3) Site restrictions.**

(A) Food crops with harvested parts totally above the land surface that touch the sewage sludge/soil mixture must not be harvested from the land for at least 14 months after the application of sewage sludge.

(B) Food crops with harvested parts below the surface of the land must not be harvested for at least 20 months after application of sewage sludge when the sewage sludge remains on the land surface for four months or longer prior to incorporation into the soil.

(C) Food crops with harvested parts below the surface of the land must not be harvested for at least 38 months after application of sewage sludge when the sewage sludge remains on the land surface for less than four months prior to the incorporation into the soil.

(D) Food crops, feed crops, and fiber crops must not be harvested for at least 30 days after application of sewage sludge.

(E) Animals must not be allowed to graze on the land for at least 30 days after application of sewage sludge.

(F) Turf grown on land where sewage sludge is applied may not be harvested for at least one year after application of sewage sludge when the harvested turf is placed on either land with a high potential for public exposure or a lawn.

(G) Public access to land with a high potential for public exposure must be restricted for at least one year after application of sewage sludge.

(H) Public access to land with a low potential for public exposure must be restricted for at least 30 days after application of the sewage sludge.

[end document]

**And that only addresses 'pathogens'. It does not address the other toxic contaminants in sludge from household use OR industrial waste OR agricultural/road runoff etc. that may include - heavy metals, synthetic chemicals & pesticides, hydrocarbons, petrochemicals, organochlorines, pharmaceuticals, steroids & hormones etc.**

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