

BACWA PFAS Forum

November 18, 2025



B A C W A
B A Y A R E A
C L E A N W A T E R
A G E N C I E S

Welcome!

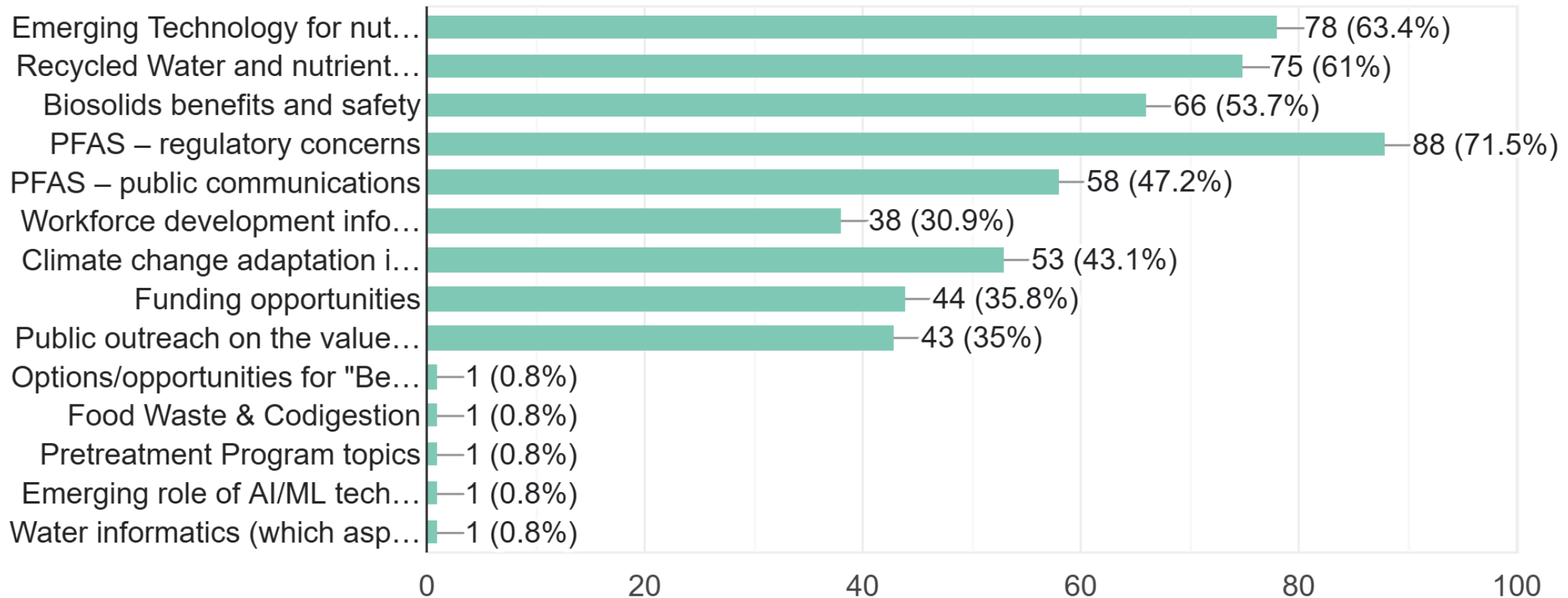
Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Regulatory Update – [Mary Cousins, BACWA](#)
3. Educating the Public on PFAS fundamentals – [Emily Barnett, Central San](#)
4. BAPPG's Pollution Prevention tools – [Zoe Lake, EBMUD](#)
5. CASA's tools to support PFAS advocacy - [Spencer Saks, CASA](#)
6. Science to Support Source Control – [Diana Lin, SFEI](#)
7. Member input on tools in BACWA's PFAS Strategy - [all](#)
8. Next steps

Why a PFAS Forum now?

What type of content would you like to see BACWA offer in the coming year? (Select all that apply)

123 responses



Why a PFAS Forum now?

- PFAS regulations under development by EPA, Water Board, OEHHA
- Water Board considering Statewide PFAS Strategy focused on source control
- SFEI PFAS Sources to Solutions project ongoing with BACWA match
- BACWA developing PFAS Strategy to guide our activities and resource deployment
 - Regulatory advocacy
 - Support for science
 - Communications support



What we've heard from BACWA's members

- We've lost the narrative on PFAS in biosolids

'More widespread': Toxic 'forever chemicals' now found in rural California drinking water

By Hannah Norman

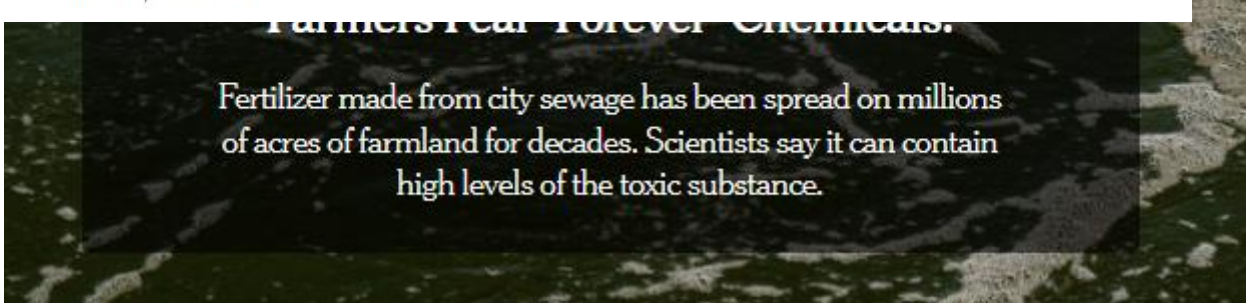
Dec 10, 2024

 Gift Article




Researchers have found toxic PFAS “forever chemicals” in drinking water wells dotting California’s rural farming regions, far from known contamination sources. Juana Valle’s well in San Juan Bautista (San Benito County) has shown potentially hazardous levels of the toxic chemicals.

Hannah Norman/KFF Health News



Use of wastewater treatment plant effluent containing Pfas threatens wildlife, food and drinking water, advocates say



 Treated effluent water pours into a canal in Queen Creek, Arizona, in 2023. Photograph: Bloomberg/Getty Images



A wastewater treatment plant in Fort Worth, Texas, last year. Jordan Vonderhaar for The New York Times

What we've heard from BACWA's members

- We've lost the narrative on PFAS in biosolids
- Communicating about benefits of biosolids is no-regrets first step



THE BENEFITS OF BIOSOLIDS

A renewable resource that is good for improving soil health, increasing crop yields, and mitigating climate change.

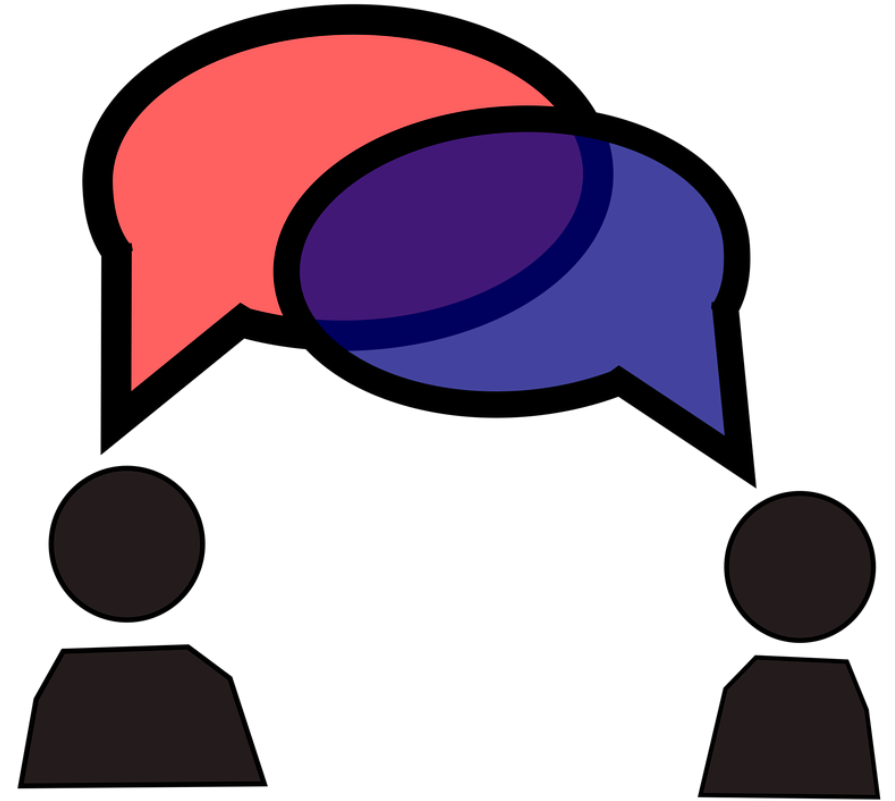
[EXPLORE OUR FAQs](#)

What we've heard from BACWA's members

- We've lost the narrative on PFAS in biosolids
- Communicating about benefits of biosolids is no-regrets first step
- The clean water industry has a role in providing education on PFAS

Goals for today's meeting

- Provide updates
 - Regulatory
 - Communications
 - Partnerships
 - Science
- Hear from you
 - Interest in participating in PFAS Science
 - PFAS Communications needs
 - What else can BACWA do to support your agency on PFAS



Media Strategy

The New York Times

Toxic Red Tide Kills 'Uncountable' Numbers of Fish in the Bay Area

A harmful algal bloom in the San Francisco Bay is killing fish, sharks and stingrays. Some are washing ashore.

Share full article



2023



A harmful algal bloom in the San Francisco Bay Area has killed numerous fish, sharks and stingrays. Justin Sullivan/Getty Images

2024

San Francisco Chronicle

Poop and pee cause algae blooms in S.F. Bay. Water agencies will spend \$11 billion to fix the problem



Next steps

- Continue to provide updates to BACWA members on emerging PFAS issues
- SFEI to host kick-off meeting for PFAS Phase 3 Special Study
- Continue to interface with Water Board on Statewide Strategy
- Work with Communications Steering Committee to incorporate PFAS into FY27 Work Plan