



partners in wastewater management

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ~ MEDIA ADVISORY ~

## Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission Receives Innovation in Sustainability Award from Portland Business Journal

The Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission (MWWC) General Manager, Matt Stouder, accepted an Innovation in Sustainability award from the *Portland Business Journal* earlier in November, on behalf of the MWWC.

The MWWC received an award in the "Natural Environment" category for the sustainable use of biosolids as a soil amendment for poplar trees at Biocycle Farm. The MWWC recently completed the first harvest of poplar trees at the Biocycle Farm.

MWWC General Manager Matt Stouder said it was an honor to receive the award. "It was a surprise to me that the MWWC had been nominated for the award, so to be selected as a recipient out of the many nominees throughout Oregon and Southwest Washington, is truly an honor" said MWWC General Manager Matt Stouder.

### Background:

The Biocycle Farm is located on about 600 acres of agricultural land and includes nearly 400 acres of poplar trees, planted in three phases and managed as an agricultural crop. Biosolids, the solid by-product of the wastewater treatment process, are applied to Biocycle Farm as a soil amendment. To meet the requirements of an agricultural crop, the trees must be harvest every 12 year.

The MWWC is an intergovernmental partnership among Lane County and the Cities of Springfield and Eugene. The MWWC is responsible for providing wastewater management services to the Eugene/Springfield area.

**Photo:** MWWC General Manager, Matt Stouder, is pictured third from the left.

