

# America's Disposal Crisis

## Current Impact and Future Outlook

\*The materials presented in this session represent the opinions of the presenter(s) and do not reflect the opinions or positions of NOWRA; the presenter(s) are not acting as experts, and attendees should always consult qualified professionals for guidance specific to their situation.

# Jason Birdsong



## NAWT President

National Association of  
Wastewater Technicians



## OOWA President

Oklahoma Onsite  
Wastewater Association



## JT Services CEO

HVAC | Plumbing | Septic | Electrical  
Storm Shelters | Portable Restrooms



# Invested Partners



# Have you seen the news?



## Miami Septic Company Caught Dumping Liquid Waste Into Storm Drains

In February 2016, a tipster reported a septic truck driver for dumping liquid waste next to a Kmart off Biscayne Boulevard. Sure enough, when county investigators set up surveillance in the parking lot, they quickly spotted the driver pumping waste directly into a drainage manhole.

By Jessica Lipscomb February 1, 2018



County workers caught a truck from Joe's Septic dumping liquid waste into a storm sewer off Biscayne Boulevard. Miami-Dade County

## Septic Company Fined \$900K For Dumping Sewage Into Manholes



By Peak Johnson

For illegally dumping waste into manholes in Fort Wadsworth, NY, and into Brooklyn's Gowanus Canal, A&L Cesspool Service Corporation will have to pay \$900,000 in penalties.

According to [SILive.com](#), the company pleaded guilty in Brooklyn federal court to conspiracy "to violate the Clean Water Act, unlawfully discharging pollutants into a United States waterway and four counts of illegally dumping pumped sewer waste in violation of its permit."

Officials said that the company did hold permits for disposing the liquid waste that it had removed from blocked sewer lines at designated wastewater treatment facilities.

Authorities said that workers then illegally dumped the waste at different locations, which included "manholes at Fort Wadsworth, John F. Kennedy International Airport, and a city housing authority development in Brooklyn, as well as in the Gowanus Canal."

# Is there an issue today?

What will it look like in the future?



# What are you paying for in septic disposal?

The cost of septic system maintenance and disposal in the U.S. can vary widely depending on several factors such as location, system size, usage, and service provider.

## Repairs & Replacements



**Treatment**

**Tank  
Pumping**

**System  
Inspection**

# America's Disposal Crisis: A Hidden Infrastructure Threat

## THE BIG QUESTION

Is there a problem with disposal today?

What will this look like in the future?

## HIDDEN COSTS TO HOMEOWNERS

What homeowners think they are paying for



- Tank Pumping
- System Inspection
- Repairs & Replacements

## FINAL CHALLENGE:

*The crisis is already here.*

## RISING DEMAND, STAGNANT INFRASTRUCTURE

- More homes use septic systems
- More portable restrooms



## THE RIPPLE EFFECTS

Long hauler travel increases

- Fuel use, labor costs
- System wear

Illegal dumping increases when disposal is too far or expensive



Homeowners face unpredictable service delays and fees

## DUMPING RESTRICTIONS = LIMITED ACCESS

EV approved sites may be closed due to:

- Weather
- Volume caps
- Time-of-day limitations



## WHAT'S NEXT?

Not look backward (old policies, outdated pricing)



Focus on Innovative Solutions

- Public-private disposal site development
- Advanced treatment tech
- Incentivized access

# What are the solutions?



New Innovations!

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What does the future look like?

**Do you want to be apart of the...**

**TASK  
FORCE**

# White Paper

## White Paper Outline: The National Septage and Portable Sanitation Disposal Crisis

Balancing Costs, Access, and Environmental Responsibility

### I. Executive Summary

- Overview of the growing crisis in septage and portable sanitation disposal
- The real challenge: balancing costs, regulations, and responsible disposal
- Key takeaways: solutions that work, challenges to overcome, and what's at stake

### II. Introduction: The Hidden Infrastructure Crisis

- The essential role of portable sanitation and septage management in public health
- The increasing demand due to population growth, urbanization, and construction
- The challenge: rising disposal costs, limited facilities, and illegal dumping risks

### III. The Good: Successful Strategies and Solutions

- **Innovative Disposal Solutions:** Treatment plants adapting to accept septage, new processing technologies, and sustainable practices
- **Public-Private Partnerships:** Examples of municipalities working with private waste haulers for cost-effective solutions
- **Policy Wins:** States and regions that have created incentives for responsible disposal
- **Technology and Efficiency:** Advances in waste processing, tracking systems, and regulatory frameworks that reduce costs and increase compliance

### IV. The Bad: Current Challenges in Disposal

- **Skyrocketing Costs:** Rising tipping fees, transportation costs, and regulatory compliance expenses
- **Limited Access:** Many treatment plants refusing to accept septage, leaving haulers with fewer legal options
- **Regulatory and Zoning Barriers:** How well-intended policies sometimes create unintended bottlenecks for legal disposal
- **The Strain on Small Operators:** The financial and logistical burden placed on independent haulers and portable sanitation providers

### V. The Ugly: When Costs and Restrictions Lead to Illegal Dumping

- **Horror Stories of Illegal Dumping:** Case studies of environmental damage caused by improper disposal

# SCAN ME



# White Paper Goals

- Awareness
- Drive Innovation and Environmental Responsibility
- Congressional Solutions

# Get In Touch



Office | 918.406.5620

Cell | 918.282.9170

NAWT | 1.800.236.NAWT



Email | [Jason@JTServiceCo.com](mailto:Jason@JTServiceCo.com)

NAWT | [Info@NAWT.org](mailto:Info@NAWT.org)





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