**RadioLab’s Poop Train Podcast**

**Listening Activity: Answer these questions as you listen to the podcast [Cues for minutes of the answer].**

1. **What city is this taking place in [2:40]?**
2. **Where was most of the waste sent to prior to 1986 [4:00]?**
3. **What kinds of animals/bugs live inside this plant [7:20]?**
4. **How often does this plant make enough sludge to fill the entire Rose Bowl [9:10]?**

**5.) Are the “biosolids” that are leftover safe to use as fertilizer for our food [10:20]?**

**6.) Where does this leftover sludge get sent to finally? Ultimately called the “New York City Poop Train.” [12:40]**

**7.) Is it likely that you have eaten bread that may have been grown with biosolids [16:35]?**

**8.) Where are the biosolids going now, since the “poop train” has been stopped [19:30]?**

**9.) How much would it cost each New Yorker per month to send the biosolids back to Colorado [21:00]?**

**Some discussion questions:**

-Did you find it interesting to find out more about what happens after flushing the toilet?

-Is it a good idea to use human solid waste as a fertilizer?

-Does knowing that your bread may have been fertilized with human biosolids make you think differently about your food?

-Which is a better option, to send the biosolids to Colorado or putting it in landfills?

**Follow-up essay question: Is it a good idea to use human solid waste as a fertilizer? How does using human waste address some of the issues we have discussed about urban sustainability and large amounts of people living in cities?**