

Notes
WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON RECYCLING

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

GFL Environmental Material Recovery Facility, N7419 County Road V, Mayville, WI and Teams

<p>Council Members Present: John Anderson, David Keeling, Marty Oxman, David Pellitteri, Mark Walter.</p> <p>DNR: Jennifer Semrau, Sarah Murray, Ruth O’Donnell.</p> <p>Public: Alex Nett and Jeff Tetzlaff, Outagamie County; Rick Meyers and Laura Stevens, City of Milwaukee; Susan Schuller, Recycling Connections/Associated Recyclers of WI (AROW); Jeff Neu, citizen (Town of Rubicon); Antoinette Smith, Resource Recycling; Melissa Kono, UW-Extension; Noelle Xie, US Department of State; Anna Savary, International Institute of Wisconsin; Simon Bernard, Plastic Odyssey (France); Hugo Viel, Oil Change International (France); Lila Durix, City of Paris, France; Eva Rumeau, Ecotable (France); Joshua Vining, Beloit; Abbie Liedtke, Waukesha County; Julie Ketchum, WM; Jana Suriano, SCS Engineers.</p> <p>Note- due to the call-in/virtual ability to join the meeting, some participants may not be properly identified above; omissions or errors are not intentional.</p>	
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 10:08 a.m.
Introductions and Announcements	Council members, staff and guests introduced themselves. Mark Walter, Council Chair, announced Heidi Woelfel has resigned from the Council. M. Walter thanked Heidi for her years of service.
Approval of Minutes (May 2024)	Motion made by Marty Oxman and seconded by David Keeling to approve the minutes of May 28, 2024. Motion carried (6-0).
DNR/Legislative Updates	<p>Jennifer Semrau, DNR informed the council of various DNR staffing updates:</p> <p>New</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malena Grimm- new Recycling LTE • Xia Lowery- Green and Healthy Schools Coordinator (Madison) • Drae Rogers- Hydrogeologist, NE Region (Green Bay) • Anne Ebent- WM Engineer, NE Region (Green Bay) • Evan Gruszka- WM engineer, WC Region (Eau Claire) • Alyssa Jonas- Summer Engineering Intern <p>Recruitment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling & Solid Waste Manager <p>Departures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Delwiche, SE Region Waste Supervisor retired in Aug. • Rachel Stark, Recycling LTE retiring 10/31 <p>J. Semrau, DNR informed the council of various Waste and Materials Management (WMM) program updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2025 Recycling Grant application open- 10/1 deadline for maximum funding • Responsible Unit (RU)/Material Recovery Facility (MRF) data from 2024 reports QA/QC’d; presenting at Solid Waste Interested Parties (SWIP) meeting • Recycling Excellence Awards- nominations due 9/16, 13 nominations received, awards announced on America Recycles Day, 11/15

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Responsible Unit Cooperation and Consolidation: Recycling with your Neighbors</i> (WA-1623)- revised this guidance document to add a RU consolidation template (sample contract for when two RUs want to merge into one). • DNR held MRF Stakeholder meeting, 8/6. Agenda included DNR updates, recycling rulemaking changes for MRFs, feedback on solid waste rules, batteries (IL EPA, National Waste & Recycling Assoc-WI Chapter, Brown Co), fire suppression and MRF round robin. Slides and notes at Requirements for materials recovery facilities (MRFs) Wisconsin DNR • E-Cycle Collection Grants: ~\$125,000 awarded in August; projects that will establish an electronics collection site or host an event between September 2024 and December 2025. • Just Announced: Second Round of US EPA Solid Waste Infrastructure For Recycling (SWIFR) and Recycling Education & Outreach (REO) Grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Combined ~\$117M ○ SWIFR for Communities- \$58M, projects \$500K- \$5M, due 12/20/24 ○ REO- \$39M, 1 award to a coalition for national wasted food and composting education and expanding compost markets ○ SWIFR for Tribes- \$20M, projects \$100K-\$1.5M, due 3/14/25 • Also learned there will be another round of non-competitive State SWIFR grants in 2025, no more information known at this time <p>J. Semrau, DNR informed the council of various upcoming meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9/18 Solid Waste Interested Parties Meeting (SWIP), 1:30-3:30pm via Teams or conference call (608-571-2209, ID 228 744 751#). Topics include Waste and Materials Management Program updates, rule writing and financial updates, recycling data reporting and a presentation from EPA's Landfill Methane Operations Program (LMOP) who will share information on the tools and resources they have available for landfills interested in methane reuse project. Agenda will be posted at Solid Waste Interested Parties Wisconsin DNR. • 11/7 WMM Study Group Meeting, 9am via Teams. Agenda and more information will be posted at Waste and Materials Management Study Group Wisconsin DNR. • Rule Feedback Meetings (below) <p>J. Semrau, DNR informed the council of various legislative/rulemaking updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling Rule- approved by Natural Resources Board and Governor, sent to Legislature who will consider it in 2025. In meantime, staff are reviewing existing publications, web pages and guidance docs and considering what needs to be edited or created. • 3 hazardous waste rules going to the Natural Resources Board for approval on September 25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WA-11-21 Modernizing Ignitable Liquids Determinations ○ WA-12-21 Expanding Universal Waste – adding aerosol cans ○ WA-14-21 Technical Corrections and Clarifications
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WA-11-22 Landfill Design and Operation and Solid Waste Fees Rule <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public hearing September 30 2:30 p.m. – virtual ○ Links to the official hearing notice, updated rule document, and economic impact analysis can be found at https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/news/input/ProposedPermanent under WA-11-22 • DNR directed by 2023 WI Act 107 to conduct emergency rulemaking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requesting approval at October NRB meeting – WA-07-24(E) ○ Requirements relating to an alternative method of establishing owner financial responsibility (OFR) at municipally owned solid waste disposal facilities ○ Similar to net worth test for private businesses ○ Public hearing not until permanent rulemaking in early 2025 • NR 502 code feedback sessions. This information and active links can be found at https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Waste/Laws.html <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date and time</th> <th>Topic</th> <th>Connection info</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Sept. 19, 10-11:30 a.m.</td> <td>Transporters and transfer facilities; s. NR 502.06 and 502.07, Wis. Adm. Code.</td> <td>Teams link or 608-571-2209; 706738390#</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oct. 3, 10-11:30 a.m.</td> <td>Solid waste processor, incinerator, air curtain destructor, and municipal solid waste combustor facilities; s. NR 502.08, 502.09, 502.10, and 502.13, Wis. Adm. Code.</td> <td>Teams link or 608-571-2209; 532223288#</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oct. 17, 10-11:30 a.m.</td> <td>Open burning, woodburning, and composting; s. NR 502.11 and 502.12, Wis. Adm. Code.</td> <td>Teams link or 608-571-2209; 227025912#</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oct. 31, 10-11:30 a.m.</td> <td>Fill exemptions, low hazard exemptions, storage facilities, landspreading, and PCB generators and handlers; s. NR 500.08 and 502.05, ch. 518, and ch. 157, Wis Adm. Code.</td> <td>Teams link or 608-571-2209,,941205174#</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nov. 14, 10-11:30 a.m.</td> <td>Infectious waste generators and handlers ch. 526, Wis. Adm. Code.</td> <td>Teams link or 608-571-2209; 282746732#</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date and time	Topic	Connection info	Sept. 19, 10-11:30 a.m.	Transporters and transfer facilities; s. NR 502.06 and 502.07, Wis. Adm. Code.	Teams link or 608-571-2209; 706738390#	Oct. 3, 10-11:30 a.m.	Solid waste processor, incinerator, air curtain destructor, and municipal solid waste combustor facilities; s. NR 502.08, 502.09, 502.10, and 502.13, Wis. Adm. Code.	Teams link or 608-571-2209; 532223288#	Oct. 17, 10-11:30 a.m.	Open burning, woodburning, and composting; s. NR 502.11 and 502.12, Wis. Adm. Code.	Teams link or 608-571-2209; 227025912#	Oct. 31, 10-11:30 a.m.	Fill exemptions, low hazard exemptions, storage facilities, landspreading, and PCB generators and handlers; s. NR 500.08 and 502.05, ch. 518, and ch. 157, Wis Adm. Code.	Teams link or 608-571-2209,,941205174#	Nov. 14, 10-11:30 a.m.	Infectious waste generators and handlers ch. 526, Wis. Adm. Code.	Teams link or 608-571-2209; 282746732#
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<p>Battery Legislative Discussion/Potential Action by Council</p>	<p>Mark Walter, Brown County/Council Chair shared that the Green Bay Packers and Batteries Plus announced a partnership whereby Batteries Plus will be accepting all batteries from the public. David Pellitteri, Pellitteri Waste Systems and Chair of the National Waste and Recycling Association (NWRA) WI chapter stated NWRA is still drafting legislation, looking at IL and MN legislation and ‘Wisconsinizing’ it. John Anderson asked for more information on the IL bill. D. Pellitteri said it is an extended producer responsibility (EPR) program where a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) runs drop-off sites, education, etc. with funding from producers. It is similar to Wisconsin’s E-cycle program for electronics. J. Semrau stated the national Portable Rechargeable Battery Association (industry) backed the IL bill. Julie Ketchum, WM, stated that the key is that the IL bill does not include embedded batteries. M. Walter stated this topic will be included on the next council meeting agenda.</p>																		
<p>Department of Energy Battery Grant</p>	<p>Sarah Murray, DNR discussed a US Department of Energy (DOE) Battery Grant opportunity, which WI applied for. Even if the legislation discussed</p>																		

	<p>above were to pass, it would take time to implement. The department is still interested in trying to increase battery collection and education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOE funding background <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Billions of dollars for clean energy infrastructure, many grant/loan programs ○ Interest in batteries because of critical materials, ability to recycle to make new batteries for EVs, energy storage, etc. ○ In the past year, handful of funding opportunities focused on collecting batteries/battery-containing devices from consumers (especially lithium-ion) ○ Both IL and MN were awarded grants in 2023 round • New round details <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funding opportunity announced Aug. 1, deadline Sept. 16 ○ Open to state and local governments for consumer battery/electronics collection programs ○ ~\$40 million, 50% cost share requirement ○ Extensive application requirements • DNR info gathering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spoke with DATCP; batteries specifically excluded from Clean Sweep grants ○ Reached out to local governments directly and through AROW list to gauge interest; limited capacity. Dane and Vernon Counties were able to meet requirements to become sub-recipients (in compressed timeframe) ○ Interest in improving outreach, setting the state for potential EPR or other state battery legislation • DNR proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Create comprehensive list/map of batter collection sites and identify gaps ○ Make use of E-Cycle Wisconsin outreach and grant program spending to meet cost share <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offer E-Cycle WI grant recipients funding to collect batteries as well ○ Use funds to support new part-time staff member to manage project ○ Recruit new sites in disadvantaged communities, areas without access and cover 50% of costs ○ ~\$1.6 million requested over 4 years (\$3.1 million total cost) • Timeline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Expect to hear back about awards in late November/early December ○ Final negotiation process seems to be lengthy <p>M. Walter confirmed that negotiation process can be lengthy; Brown County received federal grant award in 2022 but have yet to receive funds.</p>
<p>Food Waste Diversion Update</p> <p>Slides</p>	<p>Ruth O'Donnell, DNR provided a food waste diversion update (link to slides at left), providing an update on the food waste management evaluation plan, USDA soil carbon amendment adopted by WI, and various state and national updates. The former DNR e-newsletter called the Compost Post has been rebranded as Organics Waste Management News. Sign-up at</p>

	<p>https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDNR/subscriber/new?topic_id=WIDNR_665.</p> <p>Jeff Neu asked if there will be a benefit of using bio char. R. O'Donnell said she believes there already is one. Jana Suriano, SCS Engineers, said the MN chapter of the US Composting Council has a subcommittee. (http://www.mncompostingcouncil.org/biochar.html)</p>
<p>Recycling Market Updates</p> <p>Recyclable Paper Values</p> <p>Recyclable Container Values</p>	<p>M. Walter, Brown County/Council Chair shared paper and container values (see links at left). Prices are solid now, may decrease by year end. HDPE #2 color (plastic) is typically 50% the price of HDPE #2 natural, but is currently only 25%. There is an oversupply. D. Pellitteri stated plastic follows oil; with oil dropping, color is dropping. But natural is used for recycled content requirements (not being dyed) and industries still need natural to add to bottles were recycled content is required (keeping pricing up). Ferrous metals are low, non-ferrous is up. Non-ferrous often goes overseas, follows the value of inflation/US dollar. Overall markets are steady and consistent.</p>
<p>Recycling Compliance Issues</p>	<p>J. Semrau, DNR said new recycling compliance issues received since the last meeting include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints or alleged compliance issues at multi-family properties or non-residential properties in Milwaukee and Allouez. • Complaints or alleged compliance issues with haulers mixing recyclables with trash in Chippewa, Glenview and Ledgewood.
<p>Public Comment</p>	<p>Rick Meyers, City of Milwaukee shared that illegal tire dumping is reemerging as a significant issue in the city. A statewide deposit system or way to incentivize recycling would be helpful. M. Walter asked if tire EPR could be a solution. R. Meyers said yes and that a great deal of municipal funding is being used to collect used tires.</p>
<p>Other Business/Next Meeting Date/Topics/ Locations</p>	<p>M. Walter, Brown County/Council Chair said he would prefer a virtual meeting in December. He would also like to lay out a 2025 meeting schedule for the entire year. J. Semrau will do a Doodle to determine December meeting date. Topics for the next meeting include battery recycling/legislation and revisiting a report to the Governor.</p>
<p>Agricultural Plastics Recycling Update</p> <p>Slides</p>	<p>Melissa Kono, UW-Extension provided a presentation on opportunities for agricultural plastics recycling. Certain ag plastics are acceptable (silage bags) and others are non-acceptable (bale wrap). M. Kono summarized responses of farms to a survey on ag plastics and described her experiences in conducting ag plastics collections. M. Walter asked if clean marina wrap could also be collected. M. Kono said yes. J. Anderson clarified that marina wrap is the blue shrink wrap used to winterize boats.</p>
<p>Discussion/Q&A: French Delegation with the US Dept. of State's International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP)</p>	<p>Members of the French delegation asked questions of the council: Q: How does the Council on Recycling work? A: The Council on Recycling is a group created by the state's recycling law, with members appointed by the governor, to advise the governor, Legislature and state agencies on solid waste reduction, recovery and recycling policy. The DNR staffs the council. Current members include individuals representing industry, business, and local units of government. The Council typically meets quarterly.</p>

	<p>Q: What are hot (priority) topics? A: batteries (lithium), electronics, hard-to-recycle materials, paint, organics/food waste.</p> <p>Q: Are there a lack of plastics (recycling) facilities? A: Not for ‘common’ plastic resins (PETE, HDPE, PP). There are readily available domestic markets for these plastics.</p> <p>Interesting to hear how organics management works in Wisconsin. In France each jurisdiction needs to manage food waste unless there is a lack of infrastructure, then local authorities (Paris) will do it. Also interesting how each state in the US operates their recycling and solid waste management differently and independently, with different rules, laws and infrastructure-like each individual countries.</p>
<p>Introduction to GFL Environmental Material Recovery Facility (MRF)</p>	<p>Alex Goines, GFL Environmental provided an overview of operations of the new GFL MRF. Facility opened in February and processes 600 tons/day (up to 700 tons). 60-65 tons/hour, Mon-Sat from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. with maintenance conducted on weekends. Workers who work three 12-hour days (36 hours) paid for 40, which incentivizes attendance. Equipment is CP and Machinex- a lot of duplication built in. Three balers- one dual ram and two single ram. Approximately 45% of material is OCC (Old Corrugated Cardboard)- 227 OCC bales in a day. Residual rate of 10-15%. For plastics, process natural/color HDPE, PETE, PP and bulky rigids. Also produce both #11 and #12 OCC grades. Common non-acceptable materials are tires, propane tanks, scrap metal, and batteries. They do accept milk/juice cartons. Facility switched from rubber to poly belts. Employs Fire Rover, 24/7 fire monitoring system.</p>
<p>Adjourn Business Meeting/Tour GFL Environmental MRF</p>	<p>Business meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.; motioned by David Pellitteri and seconded by John Anderson. Motion carried (6-0). Participants toured GFL Environmental MRF.</p>