



DETAILED AGENDA

****CEU Info:** the RAM/SWANA conference has been approved for 16 contact hours towards an MPCA Type II or Type III solid waste landfill operator recertification. Day 1 will be worth 9 contact hours and Day 2 will be worth 7 contact hours

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2019

7:00 - 8:00 AM | Registration + Breakfast | Hennepin Foyer

8:00 - 9:10 AM | Joint Session | MN Ballroom
MINNEAPOLIS BOMB SQUAD PROTOCOL & LITHIUM BATTERY HAZARDS

SGT. Thomas Subject, Minneapolis Bomb Squad

Tim Warren, Call2Recycle

**Michael Reed, Environmental Health Supervisor + RAM Board Member*

Please join us to hear about where the Minneapolis Bomb Squad fits into emergency response and what types of services and techniques they enlist in responding to events involving explosives to unstable chemicals. Also hear from Call2Recycle about the challenges of managing and recycling lithium batteries in the solid waste industry.

9:15 AM - 12:15 PM | Solid Waste + Hazardous Waste Tours | Off-site
RANDY'S ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES FACILITY (Solid Waste)

Transportation provided!

Ryan Fogelman, VP of Strategic Partnerships, Fire Rover

The Randy's Environmental Services facility tour will provide attendees a firsthand understanding of the transfer station operation. Of particular note on the tour, attendees will see the new "Fire Rover" technology that was recently installed at the facility to help prevent tipping floor fires which are occurring more frequently at facilities across the US as a result of an increase in lithium batteries in the waste and their associated propensity to cause fires.

U OF M'S FAY THOMPSON CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT TSD FACILITY TOUR (Haz. Waste)

Transportation provided!

Please join us for a tour of the University of Minnesota's Fay Thompson Center for Environmental Management Facility which receives and manages hazardous, radioactive, infectious and non hazardous industrial waste from 51 University locations across the University of Minnesota and more than 200 MNSCU locations.



DETAILED AGENDA

9:15 - 10:15 AM | Recycling Session 1

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE | MN Ballroom

Rep. Rick Hansen (DFL District 52A), Chair Environment and Natural Resources Finance Division

Rep. John Persell (DFL District 05A), Chair Environment and Natural Resources Policy Committee

Rep. Jeff Brand (DFL District 19A), Agriculture and Food Finance and Policy Division

Sen. Karla Bigham (DFL Senate District 54), Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee

**Paul Gardner, Clean Water Council + RAM Board Member*

Minnesota legislators from the House and Senate form a panel to summarize environmental legislation with a specific focus on solid waste and recycling issues from the 2019 Legislative session and looking ahead.

10:15 - 10:30 AM | Break

10:30 - 11:30 AM | Recycling Session 2

MN RECYCLING MARKETS PANEL | MN Ballroom

Tom Weber, Avon Plastics

Neil Satterness, Northern Metals

Dan VanKorn, Strategic Glass

Peg Wander, Liberty Paper

**Bob Craggs, Burns & McDonnell + RAM Board Member*

Hear from these Minnesota companies who provide direct local markets for Minnesota MRFs and others about the challenges they face and the opportunities they present.

11:30 AM - 12:15 PM | Recycling Session 3

MINNESOTA RECYCLING OUTREACH GUIDE-REC | MN Ballroom

Kayla Walsh, MPCA

The Recycling Education Committee is proud to present their first Recycling Outreach Guide. This document is available to recycling educators including cities, counties, MRFs, and haulers statewide. The guide details recyclability by material type (metal, paper, plastic, etc) and even has a handy FAQ section. We'll walk through the guide, how it came to fruition, and how it can be utilized in any recycling program to improve recycling across the state.

MINNESOTA RECYCLING EDUCATION PROGRAMS | MN Ballroom

Alita Kane, The Recycling Partnership

Combining The Recycling Partnership's contamination-fighting tools and creative approaches, with the newly developed statewide messaging available to MN communities for a one-two punch on improving material quality. The team will showcase a wide range of new resources, including top-issue videos and a campaign builder tool that will allow communities to create customizable campaign materials.

**Jenny Kedward, Dakota County*

*denotes moderator for that session



DETAILED AGENDA

11:30 AM - 12:15 PM | Hazardous Waste

MN DUTY OFFICER – WHEN TO CALL AND WHAT HAPPENS NEXT | Hennepin 1

Jason Moran, MPCA

The presentation will cover the MN Duty Officer Hotline, when to call, who gets notified of those calls, MPCA's emergency management role and examples of high profile response(s) undertaken by the MPCA that make the case for why the system is in place and works.

12:15 - 1:00 PM | Lunch | Hennepin Foyer & Hennepin 2

1:00 - 2:00 PM | Join Session

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IN HEALTHCARE | MN Ballroom

Dana Slade, Sustainability Director, HealthPartners

Samantha McKeough, Sustainability Consultant

**Steve Schiefelbein, Republic Services + RAM Board Member*

HealthPartners generates every kind of waste you can imagine. From lab solvents and radioactive materials to food waste, diapers, recyclables and reusables. They manage all of it through their sustainability programs under the guidance of Dana Slade and the sustainability teams at HealthPartners. Join Slade and McKeough, as they present on HealthPartners' award winning sustainability program with a focus on their waste minimization efforts.

2:00 - 2:15 PM | Break

2:15 - 3:10 PM | Breakout Sessions 4

INFRASTRUCTURE INNOVATIONS (Recycling) | MN Ballroom

Jon Steiner, Polk County Solid Waste Administrator

Andrew Tri, MN DNR Wildlife

Beau Sullivan, Rehrig Companies

**Zach Fjestad, Otter Tail County Solid Waste Department + RAM Board Member*

Northwest Minnesota MRF and program improvements. Major new processing infrastructure installed at Fosston and partnering locations serving Polk, Beltrami, Hubbard and Clearwater Counties. Thwarting Animal Marauders in solid waste, recycling and organics collection sites at state campgrounds and other recreational sites. Hear about the new recycling /garbage carts designed to foil determined forest friends. Bears are becoming a focal issue by many municipalities and learn what can be done to minimize human-bear conflicts.

CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION DEBRIS LANDFILL RULE CHANGE (Solid Waste) | Hennepin 3

Cami Van Abel, PE, Terracon

Bart Schultz, Houston Engineering

Roger Schroeder, Lyon County

**John Helmers, Executive Director, Solid Waste Administrators Assoc.*

This will be a panel discussion regarding the proposed Construction and Demolition Debris Landfill rulemaking. The MPCA plans to amend existing Minnesota Rules governing permits and solid waste landfills (chapters 7001 and 7035) to include provisions similar to those in the 2005 guidance. A Rule Advisory Panel has been formed to advise the MPCA on its rulemaking and preparation of draft rules. The panel discussion will be moderated by John Helmers, Executive Director of the Solid Waste Administrators Association.

CHANGE MANAGEMENT IN A LARGE SCALE HOSPITAL (Hazardous Waste) | Hennepin 1

Ray Gladkowski, CHMM, Mayo Clinic

**Michael Reed, Ramsey Co. Environmental Health + RAM Board Member*

The new EPA/RCRA Part 266 Subpart P regulations change the way hazardous waste pharmaceuticals are handled in the healthcare industry. With this change or any changes, change management techniques must be implemented throughout the facility to get users to buy-in and follow the new regulations. In this presentation, we will talk about the new rules, some of the hurdles that will be encountered, how a larger scale hospital can implement new regulations by using change management techniques to promote sustainability and be a positive influence in our stewardship.

3:15 - 4:15 PM | Breakout Sessions 5

TREND SETTING IN RECOVERY - FROM MRF TO MARKET: A CARTON PERSPECTIVE (Recycling) | MN Ballroom

Bill Keegan, Dem-Con Companies

Jon Gertsmeier, Head of Enterprise Sales, Midwest, AMP Robotics

Mark Bond, Sustana Fiber

**Sandy Gunderson, Becker County Environmental Services + RAM Board Member*

Programs with commitments to recycling, limiting program changes by keeping materials with end markets in the recycling stream, and adoption of innovative technology continues to thrive in these challenging times. Join us for a panel that represents three different perspectives from the recycling value chain to offer understanding about how materials such as cartons are a positive asset to a recycling program; that there is demand and value from end markets; and technology solutions are available to assist, not only with cartons, but other commodities to increase efficiencies in recycling facilities and reduce contamination.

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (Solid Waste) | Hennepin 3

Cory Anderson, University of Minnesota

Michelle Carstensen, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

**Matt Evans, Burns & McDonnell + SWANA Board Member*

Management of deer carcasses is a growing concern and challenge in the state, region, and across the US. During this session, attendees will learn about the problem, what we know about what the causes are, how it's transferred being deer, and current best practices for managing the carcasses.

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COMPLIANCE RESOURCES & GUIDANCE (Hazardous Waste Track) | Hennepin 1

Josh Burman, MPCA

**Michael Reed, Environmental Health Supervisor + RAM Board Member*

Please join us to find out more about recent and upcoming changes in State and Federal Hazardous Waste Requirements along with updates regarding MPCA compliance resources.

4:30 - 6:00 PM | Welcome Reception sponsored by Fire Rover-OPEN TO EVERYONE (Great Room)

6:00 - 8:00 PM | Dinner + Awards with special guest speaker | Fireside Room

Mike Harley, Executive Director, Environmental Initiative

At Environmental Initiative, we believe we are better together, that to create lasting solutions for Minnesota's environmental challenges, we need to work collaboratively. For over a quarter-century, we've effectively brought together stakeholders from the public, private and nonprofit sectors to achieve amazing results. We've also believe that there is not an environmental issue that is not also an issue of economic vitality or social equity, and that those most impacted have long been excluded from decision making - including our processes. Environmental Initiative CEO Mike Harley will discuss how we've come to better understand that centering equity in our work is vital to ensuring the most impactful environmental outcomes and what we've done as an organization to equip ourselves to ensure considerations of equity are embedded in everything we do.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2019

7:00 - 8:00 AM | Registration + Breakfast with Exhibitors | Northland Pre-Function

8:00 - 9:15 AM | Plenary: Economics, Markets & Contamination - Looking Forward for Recycling Northland Ballroom

Lisa Skumatz, Economist, SERA

Steve Riedel, Minnesota State Trade Office

Becky Richert, SuperValu Waste and Recycling Manager – Facilities, Energy and Environmental

**Bill Keegan, Dem-Con Companies + RAM Board Member*

The panel will discuss global actions that are forcing US programs and processors to look for near- and long-term solutions to reduce contamination and return recycling industry to one that creates products that can be realistically used as production inputs. First hand examples of new manufacturing and collection methods from Sweden and Minnesota and a look at national hurdles for collection in major retail operations.

9:15 - 9:45 AM | Break with Exhibitors

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9:45 - 10:45 AM | Keynote Address | Northland Ballroom
COLLABORATING TO MEET MINNESOTA'S ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

MPCA Commissioner, Laura Bishop

**Michael Reed & Matt Evans*

The new MPCA Commissioner will share her perspectives and direction for the agency, address ongoing initiatives to work with communities and stakeholders to solve pressing environmental challenges for the State.

10:45 - 11:15 AM | Break with Exhibitors

11:15 AM - 12:15 AM | Breakout Sessions 1

PLASTICS IN THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE MARKETPLACE (Recycling) | MN Ballroom

Elizabeth Minor Prof, Chemistry & Biochemistry and Large Lakes Observatory University of Minnesota Duluth

Sunil Bagaria, GBD + Recycle More Bags Coalition

**Brita Sailer, Executive Director, Recycling Association of Minnesota*

Learn about current research regarding Microplastic particles found in western Lake Superior's surface waters at abundances similar to those seen in the north Atlantic and South Pacific oceans and also been found in the stomachs of Cisco from Lake Superior.

Hundreds of millions of pounds of plastic bags are landfilled or incinerated in North America yearly due to lack of demand from end markets. Hear how commitments to a recycled content minimum for plastic bags will lessen reliance on export markets for recyclables produced in North America, reduce carbon emissions and plastic litter, while boosting the development of a lasting circular economy.

MINNESOTA COMPOSTING PROGRAM AND ADVOCACY (Organics) | Hennepin 1

Kala Fisher, City of St. Louis Park

Tim Farnan, MPCA

**Max Milinkovich, Wexford Services + SWANA Board Member*

Come hear Minnesota Compost Council leadership talk about legislative work being done to address compostable product labeling and recent research funded by the council. Learn more about where collection programs exist throughout the state and provide feedback on the work that the MNCC is doing to support the composting industry.

THE CHALLENGE OF PROBLEM MATERIALS COLLECTION (Solid Waste) | Hennepin 3

Nick Gerold, City of Minneapolis

Lance Chastek, Certified Recycling

Tim Lundell, Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

**Dan Krivit, Foth Infrastructure & Environment*

The challenges that cities and haulers face when collecting wastes that don't fit or are prohibited from solid waste and recycling collection containers are numerous. These items can include mattresses, electronics, large appliances, furniture, and a whole slew of other odd-ball wastes. Hear from program operators about how they tackle these challenges, including curbside year-round and seasonal programs, once a year community wide cleanups, spring/fall drop-off events, permanent drop-off centers, and private reuse/recycling organizations.

UPSTREAM SOLUTIONS (Sustainability) | Arbor Lakes

Erica Zweifel, Carleton College

Stacy Koppen, St Paul Public Schools

Jodi Taitt, EcoConsilium

**Suzanne Savanick Hansen, Sustainability Manager, Macalester College + RAM Board Member*

Explore upstream solutions for food and food packaging waste with two case studies. Carleton College and the city of Northfield are developing a community wide food recovery effort. The city, non-profits, MPCA and college are collaborating to curb wasted food and address food insecurity in their community. The second case study focuses on Saint Paul Public Schools Breakfast To Go program which encourages school breakfast to be brought into classrooms. The school district partnered with EcoConsilium to cut down on food and food packaging waste by conducting an inventory of supply chain discards and developing zero waste strategies and tactics that target 95% of this waste, including a three-year environmentally preferable purchasing plan.

12:15 - 1:30 PM | Lunch with Exhibitors

1:30 - 2:45 PM | Breakout Sessions 2

MINNESOTA MULTI-FAMILY UNIT RECYCLING PROJECT (Recycling) | MN Ballroom

**Chris Coady, The Recycling Partnership*

Kellie Kish, Recycling Coordinator, City of Minneapolis

Nathan Reinbold, Environmental Coordinator, Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management

Elizabeth Logas-Lindstrom, Recycling Coordinator, University of Minnesota

Stephanie Bethke-DeJaeghere, Environmental Technician Educator Coordinator, Lyon County Environmental Department

Panel will present results from the 2018 Recycling Partnership Seed Grant. This multi-family pilot-project conducted in four Minnesota communities, highlights successes that will directly impact other Minnesota residents. Further, these multi-family initiatives are currently underway, and each panelist will have brand-new results to share.

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ORGANICS COLLECTION AND COMPOSTING (Organics) | Hennepin 1

Stephanie Stolz, GHD

Tim Goodman, NatureWorks

**Shannon Thompson, Clay County Solid Waste + RAM Board Member*

This presentation will outline the evaluation criteria and goal structure a community can use when conducting their initial planning strategies with a focus on the various types of organics programs out there. Information gained will help keep your planning needs informed by what has worked in the past and with a better understanding of what direction organics is going. As you initiate an organics strategy, or further develop one already in place, these lessons learned can maximize your efficiencies as you move forward.

WASTE-TO-ENERGY'S ROLE IN THE ROAD TO ZERO WASTE (Solid Waste) | Hennepin 3

Steve Vrchota, Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management

Matt Clark, PE, GRE HERC Services

Chris McConn, Solid Waste Director, Otter Tail County

**Emily Hyland, HDR*

During this session a dynamic panel will take a close look at the role waste-to-energy facilities play as Minnesota shifts to Zero Waste. Hear from industry leaders discussing the benefits and challenges of waste-to-energy and the importance of processing, technology advancements, localized solutions, and the environment.

MARKETING FOR SUSTAINABLE BEHAVIOR CHANGE (Sustainability) | Arbor Lakes

John Harris, Ideas42

Kate Bartelt, Foth

Kristin Pierskalla, Hennepin County

**Pam Hove, City of Hopkins + RAM Board Member*

Learn how to motivate behavior change through effective marketing strategies. Ideas42 will introduce concepts of behavior science and how to encourage individual behavior change, then we will launch into two case studies – one presented by Foth that focuses on preemptive rather than reactive communications and the re-branding campaign of Hennepin County's Choose to Reuse program through market research and retailer engagement.

2:45 - 3:15 PM | Break with Exhibitors

3:15 - 4:30 PM | Breakout Sessions 3

RISING ECOMMERCE PACKAGING: ANTICIPATING POLICY AND PROGRAM NEEDS TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLE PLANNING (Recycling) | Hennepin 1

Lee Anderson, President, AMERIPEN

Rhodes Yepsen, Executive Director, Biodegradable Products Institute

**Erin Hertog, Minnesota Waste Wise Foundation + RAM Board Member*

Ecommerce is a rapidly emerging distribution channel. New products and formats, new materials and new processes continue to emerge. Retailers, brand owners and others seek to explore how they can capitalize on this shift in consumer purchasing patterns but very little attention has been given to end of life

*denotes moderator for that session



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management. AMERIPEN has been working to identify how ecommerce is shifting materials in the waste stream in order to anticipate what the potential implications could be for packaging recovery systems (curbside, store drop, sortation technology needed etc.). Join AMERIPEN to discuss what data is currently available on material shifting and discuss what may be the implications for program planning and policy development going forward.

PFAS DISCUSSION (Solid Waste + Organics) | MN Ballroom

Jim Aiken & Adam Janzen, Barr Engineering

Greg Ackerson, APEX Water

**Bruce Rehwaldt, Foth + SWANA Board Member*

Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) are an emerging contaminant that presents challenges for commonly used wastewater treatment processes. As part of this session, attendees will get an overview of the problem, hear about the state of the art in how these compounds behave in the environment, and learn about how one facility in Wisconsin is piloting a new technology to attempt to treat the problem, as well as the challenges it poses to food waste composting facilities.

EMBRACING REUSE (Sustainability) | Arbor Lakes

Emily Barker, City of St Louis Park

Chris Simon, Goodwill

Nancy Ford, Repair Lair

**Nathan Landwehr, MnTAP*

We'll embrace reuse with three presentations that focus on waste reduction efforts. Repair Lair specializes in fixing outdoor clothing and camping equipment. City of St Louis Park has been organizing community swap events for gardening, clothing and building materials. St Louis Park will share lessons learned and diversion metrics from their program. Goodwill will close the session with building a framework of sustainability initiatives and share their diversion and recycling strategies.

4:30 PM

Conference Ends