

# TUESDAY, MAY 9

The MRC will use its App to give you access to schedules, maps, session descriptions, and receive notifications right on your phone. Provide feedback on sessions instantly, connect with attendees, share pictures, learn about sponsors and exhibitors, and more. Search for "Michigan Recycling Coalition" in your App store!



## REGISTRATION OPEN

**7:00 A.M.** (OPEN TO 6 P.M.)

## TOURS

**9:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.**

*Special notes: Closed-toed, hard soled shoes/boots required. Be prepared for inclement weather and walking.*

*\*Multiple tour opportunities are being provided to Bell's Brewery and WMU's Pilot Paper Plant, please read carefully.*

### AM Tour 1

#### Western Michigan University's Pilot Paper Plant\* & Bell's Brewery\*

Western Michigan University's Paper Pilot Plant is a large-scale recycling facility that can recycle, repulp, and de-ink a wide variety of post-consumer waste including mixed office waste, magazines, food service items, and a variety of packaging including old corrugated containers. The Pilot Plant can make paper from a customer's choice of recycled source fiber. Attendees will view the paper recycling process and other aspects of the Pilot Plant operations. Enjoy a guided tour of Bell's Comstock facility with brewery fun facts and industry insights along the way. See three brewhouses and their keg, can and bottling lines, as well as production spaces, fermentation cellars, and all of their packaging lines.

OR

### AM Tour 2

#### Schupan Electronics Recycling & Western Michigan University's Pilot Paper Plant\*

Schupan Electronics Recycling is an R2- and RIOS-Certified recycler of electronic waste that processes devices into raw materials such as plastic and aluminum. Follow the flow of materials through the facility, including the intake/inventory area, initial materials sorting, manual disassembly, the shred/automated sort line, circuit board grading and shredding, hard drive destruction, universal waste management, and final outbound staging and shipping.

Western Michigan University's Paper Pilot Plant is a large-scale recycling facility that can recycle, repulp, and de-ink a wide variety of post-consumer waste including mixed office waste, magazines, food service items, and a variety of packaging including old corrugated containers. The Pilot Plant can make paper from a customer's choice of recycled source fiber. Attendees will view the paper recycling process and other aspects of the Pilot Plant operations.

OR

## TRAINING

**9:00 A.M. – NOON**

### AM Training A

#### Recycling Leaders Cohort Training

*Sarah Archer, Iris Waste Diversion Specialists  
Michigan State University Extension*

This in-person training is part of a larger 12 unit web-based training series being made available by Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) to support local government officials and recycling advocates in communities across the state. Those interested in promoting and leading recycling efforts in their community are encouraged to sign up for this introductory web-based training. Participants will be required to complete three online training modules prior to attending this special conference cohort training. Up to 20 participants who meet the needs criteria will receive a scholarship to attend the entire MRC Conference.

The results of this pilot training will be used to guide the development of this and other recycling training programs in Michigan. Under the direction of EGLE, Michigan State University is working with the MRC and Iris Waste Diversion Specialists to create an introductory, web-based recycling leaders training.

This training is designed to provide a general overview of recycling, including but not limited to:

- History & Laws
- Materials Collection & Markets
- The Recycling Process, Programs & Services
- Education & Outreach
- Organics Management

OR



Follow this link [https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_5hdZgWNeBiPp7jE](https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5hdZgWNeBiPp7jE) to learn more about this educational opportunity. Registration will be managed through the link above and not MRC Conference registration link.

TUES, 5/9 cont.



## AM Training B

9:00 A.M. – NOON

### Leveling Up to Recycling Carts

*Dan Broersma, City of Holland*  
*Brian Miller, Cascade Cart Solutions*  
*Cassandra Ford, The Recycling Partnership*  
*Jeff Krmarik, Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy*

Making covered, wheeled recycling carts available to your community is important to growing material volumes, increasing participation, and managing an efficient recycling program. Learn about the entire process through the experience of one community that recently stepped up to carts. Understand how the City of Holland worked with a cart manufacturer Cascade Cart Solutions, the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), The Recycling Partnership (TRP), and a task force of community members to envision, fund, and launch a recycling cart program. Cascade Cart Solutions will discuss their ECO cart made of 10% post-consumer plastic and the requirements and logistics of small to large-scale preparation and delivery of carts. EGLE and TRP will share information about the financing of carts and criteria for receiving the funding. TRP will share its expertise, communication tools, and community best practices around new cart roll out and use. The City will show how they worked with these parties and a task force from the community to pull it all together and launch the cart program.

### LUNCH

NOON – 1:30 P.M. For Tour & Training participants only

### AFTERNOON OF SERVICE PROJECT

1:30 – 4:30 P.M.

#### Kalamazoo Valley Community College Food Innovation Center

New to the conference this year is an opportunity to give back to the Kalamazoo area. Join fellow conference attendees in assisting the Food Innovation Center (FIC). The FIC is a living lab for skills-based training programs, community education, and networking focused building a sustainable, healthy, prosperous, and equitable food system in Kalamazoo and greater Southwest Michigan. Participants will have an opportunity to roll up their sleeves and help the urban farm prepare and clean-up garden beds, spread compost, and/or plant beds. Participants will start the afternoon with a 45 minute “walk and talk” with staff to learn about FIC’s programs. Participants will be required to sign a basic liability waiver and should be prepared for the weather, wear sturdy, closed shoes that can get dirty, and share accessibility or mobility needs. More information will be provided to registered participants before the event.

OR

### TOURS

1:30 – 5:00 P.M.

#### PM Tour 3

#### Gun Lake Casino Mijem Wébnan Recovery and Sebright Products & Bright Technologies Tour

The Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Tribe) work to maintain their elder’s vision by protecting their land and natural resources for future generations. At the Gun Lake Casino, the Tribe diverts Mijem wébnan (food waste) from the Harvest Buffet kitchen and the team dining room, reducing the mijem wébnan volume by an average of 70%. See a Harp aerobic digester in action, the first tribally-owned biodigester in Michigan. Tour the Gun Lake government campus and learn about the zshshkiké (compost) program and sustainable commodity management plans for the future. Sebright Products Inc. and Bright Technologies, a specialty division of Sebright Products, designs, manufactures, installs, and services industrial trash/refuse and recyclable waste handling equipment as well as equipment for dewatering, solidification of wet materials, the de-packaging of containers, and densification of expanded polystyrene foam. See where Sebright/Bright Technologies design and manufacture EPS densifiers, beverage destruction, oil filter recycling equipment, balers, extruders, compactors, Xcyclers, and belt filter presses.

OR



The MRC Conference falls during International Compost Awareness Week this year. Learn more about the opportunities ICAW provides to promote your food waste reduction and diversion programs.

<https://www.compostfoundation.org/ICAW/ICAW-Home>

TUES, 5/9 cont.



**Explore** the future of recycling, organics & sustainable materials management in Michigan

**Benefit** from fantastic Networking Opportunities

**Learn** from thought-provoking Keynotes, Tours, and Presentations

**Meet** with Service Providers & Product Manufacturers who can help you achieve your goals

## PM Tour 4

### Kalamazoo County Household Hazardous Waste Center & Bell's Brewery\*

The Kalamazoo County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Center accepts a wide variety of materials including automotive products, cleaners, acids/bases, fuels, paint products, batteries, and electronics year-round. The HHW Center also participates in the "Clean Sweep" grant program to collect outdated, unused or unwanted pesticides from any resident, farm, greenhouse, nursery, or golf course in Michigan. Tour the collection facility and see how materials are identified, sorted, and stored prior to shipping. Enjoy a guided tour of Bell's Comstock facility with brewery fun facts and industry insights along the way. See three brewhouses and their keg, can, and bottling lines, as well as production spaces, fermentation cellars, and all of their packaging lines.

OR

## TRAINING

### PM Training C

1:00 – 5:00 P.M.

### Managing Change

*Dr. Jennifer Bott, Western Michigan University*

The waste and recycling industry is undergoing a significant amount of change. Given upcoming demands for county planning, charting the future of sustainable materials management, responding to funding opportunities, and delivering on climate mitigation strategies are exciting, they will require intentional planning, communication, and implementation. As a professor of management at Western Michigan University (WMU), Dr. Bott has provided a wide variety of valuable professional development training sessions to adult learners outside the university on leadership, business management, and managing change. She will lead you to explore the changes that will be impacting your work and through interactive exercises, you will be able to:

- Assess your personal readiness for change,
- Understand typical reactions to change environments,
- Diagnose your organizational readiness for change,
- Effectively design communications in support of change,
- Lead change efforts with confidence.

Dr. Bott served as provost and vice president for WMU's academic affairs from 2017 to 2022 and as her responsibilities have included the oversight of all academic policies and activities, as well as the development and execution of long-range planning for the university. Receive proven and direct support for your personal and organizational growth from an expert in managing change and strategizing for the future.

## WELCOMING RECEPTION

5:00 – 6:00 P.M.

### RRS Kick-Off Reception

RRS invites attendees to kick-off the conference with a quick refreshment and good company. Take a few moments to meet and greet other community and program leaders, equipment suppliers, manufacturers, material processors, and recycling professionals. We look forward to learning about your recycling goals and how we can build a strong circular economy in Michigan.

## GRUB CRAWL

6:00 – 10:00 P.M.

Always a highlight of the MRC Conference, join fellow attendees to mix and mingle at a couple fun venues in downtown Kalamazoo. This vibrant city is home to a wide variety of bars and eateries. Take a short walk with friends to continue the networking. Maps will be available. Light food will be provided at two chosen locations. You bring the conversation and fun!

# WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

## REGISTRATION

7:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.

## BREAKFAST

8:00 – 9:00 A.M.

## WELCOME & KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

9:00 – 10:00 A.M.

### Taking Control of the Second Phase of the Recycling Revolution

*Neil Seldman, Zero Waste USA*



Neil Seldman

The first phase of our recycling revolution commenced in the late 1960s and by the early 2000s enough community collection programs were in place around the country to bring us to a national recycling rate of 35%. But growth has become stagnant. In 2018, we entered the second phase of this recycling revolution when contaminated materials resulting from poor-quality processing were banned by China's National Sword program. At this time, the U.S. recycling industry had to turn inward to focus on better processing and investment in domestic markets. Understand some of the more and less desirable features of this second phase and latest challenges to achieving our goals. Learn about developing zero waste strategies such as tax and investment policies, bans on toxic packaging, and programming support.

Neil Seldman is the director of the Recycling Cornucopia Project for Zero Waste USA where he provides pro bono assistance to local government and community organizations working to plan for and develop zero waste plans and programs. He is currently working with the City of Detroit to support their work. Seldman co-founded the Institute for Local Self-Reliance in 1973, serving as President for 40 years and directing the Institute's Waste to Wealth program for 48 years. ILSR's Waste to Wealth Initiative became prominent and influential over the next five decades and helped create other robust organizations - National Recycling Coalition, 1980; Zero Waste USA, 1996; Zero Waste International Alliance 2006, and; Save the Albatross Coalition, 2016 - and supported a myriad of local for profit and nonprofit reuse, composting, recycling and manufacturing enterprises. He has a long and rich personal and professional history and if you can talk with him at the conference, you'll benefit from it.

## EXHIBITION HALL

*Dedicated Networking Hours*

**Wednesday, 5/10**

**Dessert & Coffee 1 – 3 P.M.**

**Reception 5 – 7 P.M.**

*Exhibition Hall Open 1–7 P.M.*

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10:10 – 11:00 A.M.

## Regional Meetings

### Northern Lower Peninsula

Alcona  
Alpena  
Antrim  
Arenac  
Benzie  
Charlevoix  
Cheboygan  
Clare  
Crawford  
Emmet  
Gladwin  
Grand Traverse  
Iosco  
Kalkaska  
Lake  
Leelanau  
Manistee  
Mason  
Missaukee  
Montmorency  
Ogemaw  
Osceola  
Oscoda  
Otsego  
Presque Isle  
Roscommon  
Wexford

### Upper Peninsula

Alger  
Baraga  
Chippewa  
Delta  
Dickinson  
Gogebic  
Houghton  
Iron  
Keweenaw  
Luce  
Mackinac  
Marquette  
Menominee  
Ontonagon  
Schoolcraft  
West Michigan  
Ionia  
Kent  
Mecosta  
Montcalm  
Muskegon  
Newaygo  
Oceana  
Ottawa  
Mid-Michigan  
Clinton  
Eaton  
Griott  
Ingham  
Isabella  
Livingston

### Bay Area/Thumb

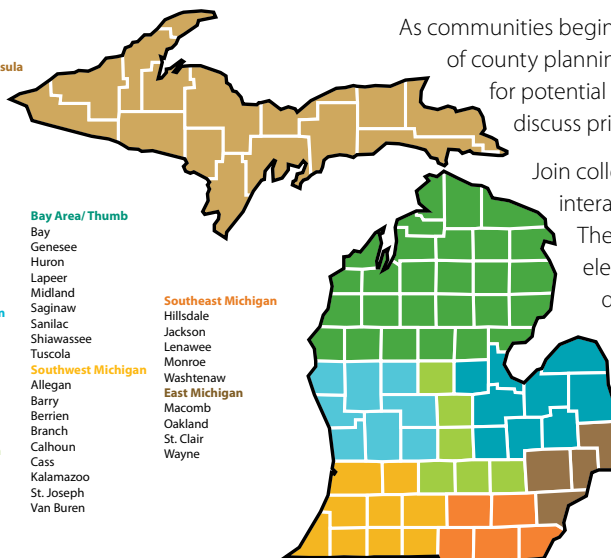
Bay  
Genesee  
Huron  
Lapeer  
Midland  
Saginaw  
Sanilac  
Shiawassee  
Tuscola

### Southeast Michigan

Hillsdale  
Jackson  
Lenawee  
Monroe  
Washtenaw  
East Michigan  
Macomb  
Oakland  
St. Clair  
Wayne

### Southwest Michigan

Allegan  
Barry  
Berrien  
Branch  
Caldwell  
Cass  
Kalamazoo  
St. Joseph  
Van Buren



As communities begin to consider the requirements and opportunities of county planning, it's important that we make time and space for potential collaborators to meet one another and begin to discuss priorities.

Join colleagues in eight designated MRC regions to get interactive, share priorities, and engage with your peers. The eight regions will convene in four groups to elevate and move local and regional topics in the right direction and influence state issues.

Please check the map to find your region and join the conversation to grow recycling.

East & SE	Room TBA
Mid & Bay	Room TBA
West & SW	Room TBA
North & UP	Room TBA

WED, 5/10 cont.



## CONCURRENT SESSIONS

11:10 A.M. – Noon

### Unique Public/Private Partnerships to Advance Recycling

*Nick Carlson, Goodwill Industries of West Michigan*

While Goodwill Industries of West Michigan is a nonprofit focused on helping people in need reach their full potential through the power of work, their thrift stores and triple bottom line approach requires them to be good managers of materials. Learn how Goodwill is working with various for-profit entities through joint ventures and partnerships to find and secure new opportunities for end-of-life materials. See how Goodwill is advancing recycling in West Michigan by eliminating two key waste streams and generating new sources of income for the communities it represents.

### Partnerships that Support Right-Sized Recycling Solutions

*Elisa Seltzer, RRS*

Limited access to processing infrastructure and the cost to transport materials for processing makes recycling costly for many communities. Empowering communities and haulers with smaller scale solutions can be a game changer. Learn about a few key partnerships that have developed to “scale” design and operation. Learn about how NextCycle is connecting Michigan teams with partners like the Closed Loop Partnership and more to drive solutions and accelerate investment in the Michigan Circular Economy. Unique case studies will highlight some ways that partnerships have resulted in real impact, with NextCycle Michigan facilitating opportunities. Learn about future opportunities to expand processing capabilities while holistically creating a more sustainable environment for materials recovery.

### Seven Recycling Education Mistakes and How to Avoid Them

*Katherine Melby, C2B Materials Management Support*

Ours is a complex industry. We run complex systems, and getting information across to residents and customers keeps getting more complex. Don't waste your precious education dollars and hours on these common recycling communications mistakes, with topics such as how to avoid greenwashing and prioritizing effective messaging. We'll laugh, we'll groan, we'll smack our foreheads, and we'll share great resources that can help you get recycling education right!

### Michigan Composting Regulations

*Aaron Hiday, Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy*

Composting facility regulations will no longer be “one size fits all,” and will benefit Michigan by assuring facilities are an asset to their community. Oversight and regulations on composting operations expand significantly under newly adopted changes to Part 115. Learn about new definitions, testing, and requirements for managing compostable materials, compost additives, and compost facilities. Understand what these regulations mean for your facility and what compliance and permitting will look like under the new framework. See how these changes will build confidence in composting and create new opportunities for Michigan composters.

## NETWORKING LUNCH

### MRC Annual Meeting & Annual Report

Noon – 1:00 P.M.

Hear about MRC's progress this year and plans for next.

## EXHIBITION HALL GRAND OPENING

1:00 – 3:00 P.M.

Mix and mingle with conference exhibitors, attendees, speakers, sponsors, and invited guests. Get a sneak peek at Fund Affair donated items we'll have for the raffle and silent auction! Bring cash and purchase raffle tickets from Board members or use credit and purchase tickets at the registration desk.



## CONCURRENT SESSIONS

3:10 – 4:00 P.M.

### Are Solar Panels the Next Frontier in Electronic Waste?

*John Kinch, Michigan Energy Options  
Dan Schoonmaker, West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum*

The use of photovoltaic solar energy will increase dramatically in the near future as utilities, homeowners, and commercial properties invest in renewable energy. As solar panels break, age or become obsolete, this will create a new concern for local recycling programs and new opportunities for reuse and electronic recycling. In fact, by 2035 the Harvard Business Review projects that there will be 2.5 times more discarded panels than new units nationally.

Learn how Michigan is beginning to proactively address the issue through new public policy and infrastructure investments, and hear about a new venture that has launched to address the issue.

### The State of Glass Recycling in Michigan

*Lindsey Walker, Emmet County*

Even as glass is losing market share as a desired packaging solution, it's still one of the most recyclable materials managed. Take a transparent glass journey through well known Northern Michigan and Upper Peninsula recycling programs and hear about the evolution of glass bottle and jar recycling in that program; the trials, transportation tribulations, and technology required to get post-consumer recycled glass to market. Understand the options for reducing handling costs and weigh needed investment in cleaning recovered glass on-site and supporting local use as opposed to sending it away for further processing.

### Successful Local Recycling Service Providers

*Rita Meech, Ms. Green  
Jeff Dietlin, City of Cadillac*

As Michigan communities explore recycling service provision options, local private sector service providers can be a viable, and sometimes preferred, option. Ms. Green has been providing recycling opportunities through curbside and drop-off services to the City of Cadillac and parts of Wexford, Missaukee, and Osceola Counties since 2008. Hear the story of this privately-owned and operated recycling company and how they've grown over the past 15 years to meet the recycling needs of area residents and businesses. Learn about how the City of Cadillac's partnership with Ms. Green provides residents with access and opportunities they might not otherwise have. Think outside the government box! Join to hear what's next for this partnership.

### Connecting the Dots

*Matt Flechter, Christina Miller & Jeff Krmarik, Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy*

As the policy framework on which all materials management programming will be developed, it will be important to understand how all the pieces of Part 115 fit together. Get some context behind the changes to Michigan solid waste law and how it's intended to move Michigan closer to a circular economy. Explore all the moving parts and how they are intended to work together to create a materials management system that protects our environment and contributes to our economy.

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS

4:10 – 5:00 P.M.

### Designing & Collecting Supply Chain Packaging for Recycling

*Kellen Mahoney, Suppliers Partnership  
Bridget Grewal, Magna International*

Considering the scale and volume of materials moving through the automotive supply chain, the potential to recapture plastic dunnage – various protective packaging materials - presents a significant sustainability and economic opportunity. While recycling is common practice and returnable containers are a staple for domestic shipments, internal plastic dunnage is often harder to recycle. Learn about the Suppliers Partnership for the Environment (SP), and their work bringing together automakers, suppliers, and recyclers to explore recovery opportunities. As businesses get good at recycling and start to target harder to recycle materials, learn about how highlighting challenging materials in need of new innovation and developing guidelines for improving recyclability of automotive packaging can light the way.



**This EGLE sponsored accelerator-style program provides free technical and business support.**

Explore NextCycle Michigan opportunities now and at the conference.

<https://nextcyclemichigan.com>



**NEXTCYCLE  
MICHIGAN**

## How Technology Can Improve Your Recycling

*Cassandra Ford, The Recycling Partnership*

Technology has embedded itself into every aspect of our lives: home, school, work, AND recycling. Recycling is influenced and improved by technology through apps and AI cameras for education at the home, as well as scanners and robotics to aid sortation at the MRF. Understand the benefits and impacts of using technology in all aspects of recycling programming, including data and results from technology pilots in Michigan.

## Working Toward Deconstruction in Ferndale

*Claire Dion, City of Ferndale*

The City of Ferndale is working to increase the landfill diversion rate for major waste sources, and one strategy is to mandate deconstruction practices instead of demolition. In 2022, EGLE's Catalyst Leadership Circle Fellowship Program worked with the Zero Waste Program Coordinator to draft an ordinance aimed at increasing the diversion of currently landfilled waste through recycling and reuse mechanisms during construction and demolition. Learn about the financial, health, and environmental aspects of a demolition approach. Understand the benefits of deconstruction over demolition, hear about the research on possible incentives to aid in compliance, and explore the challenges facing the City as it moves forward with this policy.



## Tools and Resources to Grow Recycling and Organics Programs

*Tracy Purrenhage & Matt Flechter, Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy*

Part 115 is the policy framework on which counties and communities will create their plans and the programs and services that will help them meet their materials management goals. Learn more about the support, tools, and resources, including grants and technical assistance, EGLE is developing to help you make progress toward meeting collective and community goals. Learn how new benchmark recycling standards will set the stage for communities to identify needs, develop a funding mechanism, provide services, and serve their community.



## APPETIZERS & COCKTAILS WITH THE EXHIBITORS

**5:00 – 7:00 P.M.**

Join exhibitors and attendees for some much-needed networking in the Exhibit Hall. A progressive buffet and cash bar is the backdrop for more networking and professional socializing. Have projects or programs in mind? Find your contacts and get your questions answered here.

The **MRC FUND AFFAIR** is a fun, fast-paced networking event featuring a range of recycled and useful goodies donated by generous supporters. Join in on the fun that brings in additional funding for MRC's Recycle, Michigan Campaign. Consider contributing a cool reusable or recycled item for inclusion. But whatever you do, bring cash to purchase raffle tickets from Board members or use credit to purchase tickets at the registration desk.



## YOUNG PROFESSIONALS GROUP NETWORKING RECEPTION

**7:00 P.M.**

Join colleagues at the second annual U.S. Compost Council Michigan Young Professional Group (YPG). While this networking opportunity is designed to welcome young professionals and those that are new to the field, all are welcome to attend - as the best networking happens when experienced professionals share in the fun, too! Don't miss this opportunity for more networking focused on the upcoming recycling leaders. Location and details to follow.

# THURSDAY, May 11

## EXHIBITION HALL

*Dedicated Networking Hours*

Thursday, 5/11

Lunch 12:30 – 2 P.M.

*Exhibition Hall Open 11 A.M. – 2 P.M.*



**Kate Bailey**

## REGISTRATION OPEN

7:30 A.M.

## BREAKFAST ROUNDTABLES

8:00 – 9:20 A.M.

Join colleagues for breakfast and conversation around regional projects, opportunities, and challenges or on topics of growing interest. Tables will have topics to get the conversation started.

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS

8:30 – 9:20 A.M.

### Considering EPR for Michigan

*Amanda Nicholson, Product Stewardship Institute*

Product stewardship laws are gaining popularity across the country as a way to fund recycling programs and limit the impact of products and packaging. As Michigan communities begin to consider the requirements of materials management planning and meeting state goals, funding programs are at the top of mind and local governments are eager to understand the implication of extended producer responsibility (EPR). Learn about EPR principles and explore the similarities and differences among some of the recently passed laws. Engage in discussion around EPR opportunities and approaches for Michigan to address paint, e-waste, batteries, carpet, and packaging and paper products using the framework.

### New Facility and Authorization Types

*Staff, Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy*

In an effort to put productive materials management methodologies on par with waste, all facilities managing material will now be required to either notify, register, or apply for a general permit with the Department. Learn more about these and other reporting requirements. Understand at what level a general permit will be required and what that means for your materials recovery facility, waste diversion centers, anaerobic digesters, innovative technology facility, or other source separated facility.

## KEYNOTE

9:30 – 10:30 A.M.

### The Future of Plastics Recycling

*Kate Bailey, Association of Plastics Recyclers*

With the hiring of a new Chief Policy Officer, Association of Plastics Recyclers (APR) is amplifying its engagement with and hopefully impacting federal and state policy-making. The fact that APR chose Kate Bailey - whose work at Colorado's Eco-Cycle has established her credibility with recyclers - to be their policy voice is noteworthy. Hear again how recycling, especially plastic recycling, is an important climate solution. Learn about the changing nature of plastic packaging and see how brands and manufacturers are changing their approach to assure they have access to the materials they will need in the future. Understand the incredible challenges that lie ahead and learn about new and emerging state and federal policies, including why extended producer responsibility legislation will be important to securing a circular future.

Kate Bailey is the Chief Policy Officer for the Association of Plastics Recyclers (APR). She has over 15 years of experience working with state legislators, local governments, consumer goods companies, NGOs, and other stakeholders to implement actionable, effective solutions to improve recycling. She has championed numerous local and state policies, including Colorado's groundbreaking Producer Responsibility for Packaging program. Based in Colorado, Kate previously served as the Policy & Research Director for Eco-Cycle, a nonprofit pioneer in recycling and zero waste operations and programs.

## AWARDS

10:30 – 11:00 A.M.

MRC Awards of Recycling Excellence Presentation



**THURS, 5/11 cont.**

The MRC has partnered with Schupan, a leader in Michigan's sustainable materials management and event sustainability to move our conference towards zero waste and carbon neutrality. As our industry looks to advance and decarbonize, we are actively seeking to examine our role in the process to become leaders during our annual gathering. If you're interested in learning more, attend the "What to Know About ESG" concurrent session on Thursday, May 11 at 11:00 A.M.



Your one-stop shop for recycling information & expertise!

Participate in informative Educational & Training Sessions!

Get motivated to make even more of a difference than you already do ... and have fun doing it!

A STRIVING FOR ZERO WASTE EVENT

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS

**11:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.**

### What to Know About ESG

*Jessica Loding, Schupan, Inc.*

As sophistication around growing the bottom line to include benefits beyond the dollar develop, organizations large and small are using environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria to measure, compare, and report progress. Learn about the basic frameworks of ESG, how they are applied, and how they can positively impact your organization. Understand reporting standards, learn how to calculate a baseline carbon footprint, evaluate and understand your organizations social impacts, and review governance structures that support successful programming. Interactive exercises, case study reviews, and discussion will make ESG concepts concrete.

### Community Based Drop-Off Solutions

*Samantha Buterbaugh, Biz Aid Recycling  
Panel of drop-site managers*

Providing recycling opportunities in the form of drop-off sites will become more important for small rural communities and large urban centers alike. Hear from representatives from long-standing, successful drop-off programs that cover a range of programming and operations. Hear about facility footprints, materials collected including outlets, revenue streams, and the strengths and weaknesses that accompany these programs. Take home leading examples to use in your community today.

### Filling the Gaps: Collectively Addressing Michigan Recycling Opportunities

*Elisa Seltzer, RRS  
NextCycle Team Representatives*

With 6 million tons of recoverable material being thrown 'away' in Michigan, there is an obvious opportunity and need for collaboration to capture these resources. Across the recycling supply chain there is data reinforcing and revealing voids where new solutions, new businesses, and new innovations can improve recycling. Learn how NextCycle can accelerate your program or Materials Management Planning process so funding can be maximized for implementation. Take a close look at the data behind our recycling supply chain and hear about some of the ways Michiganders are filling gaps in recycling.

### The Sun Rises on Materials Management Planning

*Christina Miller, Amy Karana & Carlie Money, Department of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy*

The biggest piece of the puzzle, county planning, is where it all comes together. Learn about the new materials management plan requirements, timelines, and the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders. Understand what counties and communities can do now to make their process more fruitful. Walk through scenarios and gain a better understanding of the why and how to plan.

## LUNCH IN THE EXHIBIT HALL

**12:30 – 2:00 P.M.**

## PANEL

**2:00 – 3:00 P.M.**

### Chemical Recycling

*Presenters to be announced*