

Recycling Updates

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

July 2024 (Edition 2 of 2)

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Nomination Period Open For Annual Recycling Excellence Awards

The DNR is accepting nominations for the 2024 Recycling Excellence Awards until Sept. 16.

Awards are offered in four categories: overall program, projects and initiatives, innovation and special events. [Entities can self-nominate or submit an application on behalf of another program.](#) The nomination should include supporting materials such as outreach samples, data or graphs and high-resolution photos.

Past winners have provided new collection and clean-up services for their communities, implemented waste reduction practices within their organization and diverted impressive amounts of compostable and recyclable materials.

The award winners will be featured on the DNR's website and social media accounts. The nomination form, information about the categories and profiles of past award winners can be found on the [Wisconsin Recycling Excellence Awards](#) webpage.

Photo: Bucket Ruckus won for their organics curbside collection service in 2022.



Annual MRF Stakeholder Meeting On Aug. 6, RU Guidance Reminder



The DNR's Waste and Materials Management Program is hosting its annual MRF stakeholder meeting on Aug. 6, 2024, from 9 a.m. to noon.

The agenda features Wisconsin MRF representatives, DNR staff and guest speakers. The presentations will cover MRF regulations included in the recycling rule revision, review of current solid waste regulations, and batteries in the waste and recycling streams.

Representatives from several MRFs and other recycling facilities will give their perspectives on batteries, fires, operations and improvements.

View the full agenda and access the meeting link on the DNR's [Requirements for Materials Recovery Facilities \(MRFs\) webpage](#).

Reminder: Responsible Unit Guidance Public Comment Period

[Responsible Unit Cooperation and Consolidation: Recycling with Your Neighbors](#) (WA-1623) has been posted on the [Waste and Materials Management Program Announcements and Public Comment Opportunities webpage](#) and will be available until July 26.

Questions and comments can be submitted to Jennifer Semrau, DNR waste reduction and diversion coordinator, at Jennifer.Semrau@wisconsin.gov.

Wisconsin Solid Waste And Recycling 101 Course Now Available

Several industry organizations teamed up to create Solid Waste and Recycling 101 in Wisconsin, a course designed to give participants common language and foundational industry knowledge while providing background on laws and regulations for managing waste and recycling resources in Wisconsin.

The six-hour course is covered in online modules, and registrants for the summer course will be invited to a private tour of the Outagamie County Solid Waste and Recycling Department on Sept. 26.

The modules are:

1. History and Overview of Solid Waste & Recycling
2. Resource Recovery and Recycling
3. Hazardous and Special Waste Management
4. Landfill Design and Engineering
5. Advanced Technologies and Emerging Opportunities in Waste Management and Recycling

The full cost is \$300. Members of partnering organizations are eligible for the reduced cost of \$75.

Register through the [WCSWMA website](#).

Solid Waste Rule Feedback Sessions Scheduled

The DNR's Waste and Materials Management Program will be requesting feedback on the current administrative code that primarily impacts nonlandfill solid waste facility operations to assess rule updates and research needs. Several virtual feedback sessions have been scheduled to gather input from stakeholders and interested parties. The sessions are open to anyone and will include an overview of rules and poll questions on the covered topics.

Planned meeting dates are:

Sept. 9, 10 – 11:30 a.m. – **Transporters and Transfer Facilities**; s. NR 502.06 and 502.07, Wis. Adm. Code.

Oct. 3, 10 – 11:30 a.m. – **Processing, Incinerator, Air Curtain Destructor, and Municipal Solid Waste Combustor Facilities**; s. NR 502.08, 502.09, 502.10, and 502.13, Wis. Adm. Code.

Oct. 17, 10 – 11:30 a.m. – **Open Burning, Woodburning, and Composting**; s. NR 502.11 and 502.12, Wis. Adm. Code.

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.

Nov. 14, 10 – 11:30 a.m. – **Infectious Waste Generators and Handlers**; ch. 526, Wis. Adm. Code.

Meeting links will be available on the DNR's [Solid Waste Rules and Statutes webpage](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Casey Krausensky, DNR solid waste coordinator, at Casey.Krausensky@wisconsin.gov.

Model Municipal Zoning Ordinance On Community Composting Now Available



Natural Resources Defense Council and the Environmental Law Institute released a [Model Municipal Zoning Ordinance on Community Composting](#). The template ordinance is adaptable and intended to help communities establish composting as an allowable use of land under a municipality's zoning code.

Additional information on the ordinance:

- [The Model Municipal Zoning Ordinance on Community Compositing with Commentaries](#)
 - [Background memorandum on the ordinance](#)
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Past Webinars

Lifecycle Of Farm-To-School Composting (Recording)

Hosted by Wisconsin DPI
[View the webinar recording.](#)

Composting In Schools (Recording)

Hosted by Recycling Connections
[View the webinar recording.](#)

Upcycling Food Waste: What Does The Future Hold? (Recording)

Hosted by ReFED
[View the webinar recording.](#)

Several webinars can also be found on the websites of the [Public Resources-Product Stewardship Institute](#), the [EPA's Sustainable Materials Management Program](#) and the [Northeast Recycling Council](#).



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

You are subscribed to the Recycling Updates from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. These updates are now available only through periodic email newsletters. For information on past updates or to share new information, please contact Jennifer Semrau at Jennifer.Semrau@wisconsin.gov.