




# WASTE & MATERIALS MANAGEMENT STUDY GROUP – Notes: August 4, 2022

Location: WI Rural Water Association Technology Building, Plover and Zoom

Member Attendance:  Curry,  Doverspike,  Johnson,  Karwoski,  Knudtson,  Mathewson,  Morgan,  Pellitteri,  Sexton,  Welch

Guests: 25 additional attendees listened using Zoom

DNR WA Attendance:  Joosten,  Schmit,  Semrau,  Sholly,  Strom Hiorns,  Wolbert

Time/ Presenter	Topic	
9:00	<b>Welcome/Agenda Review/Minutes</b>	Study Group members and guests introduced themselves. No agenda repair. Tom Karwoski motions to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Chad Doverspike. Motion carried.
9:10 Wolbert/Strom Hiorns	<p><b>DNR Updates</b></p> <p> Wisconsin DNR comments on EPA-HC</p> <p> Wisconsin DNR comments on EPA-HC</p> <p> Wisconsin DNR comments on EPA-HC</p>	<p>Staffing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retirements and departures: Susan Fisher, Aggie Cook, Aaron Kent, Cody Hines, Eliza Kruszynski</li> <li>• New hires: Engineer in SC, two Environmental Program Assistants in SC and WC</li> <li>• Recruitments in process: E-cycle Compliance Specialist, two Hydrogeologists and Solid Waste Complaints Coordinator</li> </ul> <p>Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fiscal year '22 closed 6/ 30. Ended in the black. Now in FY '23.</li> <li>• More information on the FY '22 financials will be shared at the annual Solid Waste Interested Parties meeting.</li> <li>• WA program put forth several budget requests, yet to be determined if any will proceed.</li> </ul> <p>EPA Request for Information (RFI) on Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WA staff developed and submitted comments on three RFIs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Development of Best Practices for Collection of Batteries to be Recycled and Voluntary Battery Labeling Guidelines, Docket EPA-HQ-OLEM-2022-0340</li> <li>○ Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Program, Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OLEM-2022-0342</li> <li>○ Recycling Education and Outreach; Grant Program and Model Recycling Program Toolkit, Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OLEM-2022-0375</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Kate displayed summaries of the submitted comments</li> </ul> <p>Introduce Michael Schmit, Business Services and IT Section Chief</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michael introduced himself, indicating he started with the DNR as an LTE in 2016, will be overseeing budget, owner financial responsibility, databases/IT</li> </ul> <p>Online landfill tonnage reporting and billing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual and quarterly reporting, displayed a sample.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• System calculates a fee, which can be paid online.</li> <li>• Benefits: Less paper, less checks, easier to spot errors, easier to make modifications to form, eliminates potential for data entry errors by DNR staff, reduces mistakes, faster and easier for landfills too</li> </ul> <p>E-cycle Grant Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targeted rural or underserved counties.</li> <li>• 15 projects in 13 counties will share in \$85,000 in funding.</li> <li>• 16 one-day events and some new permanent sites taking place during 2022-2023.</li> </ul> <p>Rulemaking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The coal combustion residual rule (CCR) is just finishing up and looking for U.S. EPA approval; effective 8/1.</li> <li>• NR 544, Effective Recycling Programs administrative code (recycling Responsible Units [RUs]) scope statement approved by the Natural Resources Board (NRB) at 6/22 meeting. Now in rule writing phase but intend to seek feedback throughout. Proposed rule language and fiscal estimate due 7/31/23 with public hearings in later part of 2023.</li> <li>• NR 500- working on scope statement. Still being reviewed for approval at governor’s office.</li> <li>• Dredge material- working on emergency rule, as required by legislation.</li> <li>• Hazardous waste- looking at updating three rules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Universal waste, maybe including aerosol cans</li> <li>○ Test methods on ignitability</li> <li>○ Clean up code/correction from federal rule translation in NR 600 (700+ pages long)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Gary Jones, Printing United Alliance: Is DNR considering adding paint/paint related waste to universal waste? Brad: Not sure. Andrea Keller is the DNR staff lead on this work. Likely only one hearing, over Zoom</li> <li>• Mark: Question on the timeline- some components of the NR 500 revisions will need technical study, which could take months if not longer (such as alternative liners). How does this fit into the timeline?</li> <li>• Brad: The administrative rule process provides 30 months from approval of scope statement to final rule; there is no flexibility and if that timeframe is missed, rule process starts over.</li> <li>• Mark: Could a TAG (Technical Advisory Group) be formed now?</li> <li>• Brad: WA anticipated this and hired Golder &amp; Associates to do a study, reviewing what is occurring in other states. The study was conducted about a year ago.</li> </ul>
<p>9:45 Will Dougherty and Matt Silver</p>	<p><b>Drinking Water and Groundwater Program – Brief Overview of PFAS Sampling Programs for Municipal and Private Wells</b></p>	<p>Brad introduced Will Dougherty and Matt Silver</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Municipal- 129 systems voluntarily participated</li> <li>• Private- 450 private wells geographically distributed</li> </ul> <p>Municipal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sept. 1 deadline</li> <li>• No cost to participants.</li> <li>• All results available (online) in early Sept.</li> <li>• No detects in 69 systems.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any PFAS compounds found in 38 systems.</li> <li>• PFOS/PFOA found in 26 systems.</li> <li>• NR 809 effective Aug. 1, 2022.</li> <li>• MCL 70 PPT for PFOS/PFOA for public water systems</li> <li>• Lynn: Will there be on-going sampling?</li> <li>• Will: If no detects on first two samples, no. Waiver is issued.</li> </ul> <p>Private Wells</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Overall prevalence of PFAS in groundwater?</li> <li>○ Can we determine contamination source?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ambient concentrations of each PFAS to be determined.</li> <li>• Only sampling 450 of ~800,000 wells</li> <li>• Not making results available in real time</li> <li>• Bart: If there's an exceedance at a municipal well does it need to shut down?</li> <li>• Will: No, but they need to bring it back into compliance.</li> <li>• Tim: How do you select point sources?</li> <li>• Matt: Not trying to select "point sources." When results come in with PFAS, then evaluate various possible point sources. Excluded wells within three miles of an actionable PFAS site (AFFF or select landfills)</li> <li>• Tim: Why don't you want to sample those?</li> <li>• Matt: Seeking ambient levels, not concentrations by known sites.</li> <li>• Bart: EPA came out with standards significantly lower. How does this impact WI?</li> <li>• Will: EPA health advisory levels are magnitudes lower. If MCL is issued, standards change. Now the EPA numbers are just advisory.</li> <li>• Bart: Would it replace 70 PPT? Will: Yes</li> <li>• Matt: 70 PPT issued by EPA in 2016, 20 PPT WDHS 2019, PP quadrillion EPA 2022</li> <li>• Department of Health Services (DHS) determines WI health advisory levels.</li> </ul>
<p>10:10 Semrau/ Brandon Knutson</p>	<p><b>Food Waste Prevention and Reduction</b></p>	<p>Jennifer provided a recap of DNR's work on food waste prevention and reduction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In April, launched residential food waste reduction webpage.</li> <li>• Now working on non-residential webpage with content addressing municipalities, schools, manufacturing, restaurants and grocery/retail.</li> <li>• Working with UW-Green Bay on expanding "Organics/Food Materials" diversion opportunities in the WI Recycling Markets Directory, including more categories/listings and providing UW-Green Bay with licensed composters/processors.</li> <li>• Natural Resources magazine food waste cover feature, including various food waste reduction tips, "what's in Wisconsin's landfills" and "home composting options for any living situation." Several social media posts have been developed from the content.</li> <li>• Working on a 'food waste: by the numbers' featuring WI-specific stats.</li> <li>• Finally, working with the AROW Organics Committee, clarifying when/how licensing is</li> </ul>

		<p>needed for composting sites for municipalities and farms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bart: Should look to improve guidance and promote on-site composting, like at food vendors.</li> <li>• Brad: up to 50 cubic yards are exempt.</li> </ul> <p>Brandon provided an update on AROW's revived Organics Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formerly the Food and Organic Residual Reduction Management (FORRM) subgroup of the WMM Study Group, then moved to AROW (and changed names).</li> <li>• Brandon is co-chairing with Jessica Hansen, Winnebago County.</li> <li>• Need to increase engagement and organics diversion, including the number of public and private operations.</li> <li>• Hilltopper has a pre-consumer food waste program, with over 1 million pounds diverted in two years. Hilltopper is collecting data, know it's doable.</li> <li>• Goals of the Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Support progress towards 50% reduction of food waste by 2030</li> <li>○ Education</li> <li>○ Identify gaps in composting service. (Also needs to be better understanding on when composting licensing is required. Hilltopper is using a local farmer. Another meeting is scheduled with DNR solely on clarifying when licensing is needed.)</li> <li>○ Improve infrastructure. It's limited. Can't expand programs without it. Are there grants? EPA?</li> <li>○ Legislative focus</li> </ul> </li> <li>• John: AROW, SWANA and WCSWMA presidents had a meeting on collaboration. Food waste was #1 issue. Intending to have a kick-off brainstorming session at WIRMC.</li> <li>• Kate: Looking to do a food waste specific waste sort in 2025, to assess progress towards goal. This fiscal year projecting money for study. (Kate shared study idea list.)</li> <li>• Brad: There are still lots of questions.</li> </ul>
<p>10:50</p>	<p><b>Open Forum for Study Group Members</b></p> <p><b>Suggestions for Next Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Topics/Presentations, Location</b></p> <p><b>Suggestions for 9/22/22 Solid Waste Interested Parties Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Topics/Trainings/Speakers</b></p>	<p>Discuss topic priorities where Study Group can have impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bart: Food waste</li> <li>• Chad: Food waste, landfill liners, solar, batteries- what are other groups doing?</li> <li>• Bart: Have team "at the ready" during NR 500 revision.</li> <li>• Lynn: Alternative liners, food waste, how waste reduction/recycling impact climate change (alert public to positive impact waste reduction/recycling have on climate change)</li> <li>• Mark: Design standards for landfills, due to storm events</li> <li>• Brad: Opportunity in NR 500 revision</li> <li>• Bart: This should be a standalone topic for next meeting.</li> <li>• Bart: Solar- are PV panels a concern? What's the problem with just throwing them away?</li> <li>• Kate: Some have lead solder, and glass could be recycled.</li> <li>• Bart: Do landfills take them now?</li> <li>• Chad, Lynn, Tim: Accept at landfill</li> <li>• John: Request data on panels for hazardous components, recycling is cost prohibitive.</li> </ul>

- Bart: Fires at facilities from batteries
- Lynn: It's not did your facility have a fire from a battery, it's did you have a fire TODAY? Experiencing regularly at MRFs, TSs and LFs. While it's often difficult to determine the cause, batteries are a top suspect.
- David: Daily fires is not really a joke. Just last week, hot load in a truck and a fire on the tip floor.
- Bart: What do you do?
- David: Put it out, but it will keep restarting until it's burned itself out.
- Kate: Need outreach.
- Lynn: Tell folks don't put in your trash or recycling carts, but then where? Not enough places to take them. Call2Recycle and select retailers.
- Bart: Batteries Plus? Lynn: Yes.
- David: As an industry, need better labeling.
- Brad: Product Stewardship Institute (PSI) advocating for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for batteries and more. Not necessarily viable for WI, but if there is consensus of the waste industry, that could change things.
- Jennifer: EPA seeking feedback on battery labeling in the recent BIL RFI.
- Lynn: MN requires rechargeable batteries to be recycled but need to know where and have places to take them. Maybe at a future meeting, invite MPCA to provide a presentation.
- April Greene: Milwaukee and Hilti Tools have takeback programs for all batteries.
- Brad: Another challenge is embedded batteries.
- Bart: Next meeting topics: food waste, batteries, design standards for NR 500. Should there be a subgroup on each?
- Rick: Already a committee meeting on some of these topics.
- Bart: Can Brandon or another member provide a presentation at the next meeting (on Organics Committee)?
- Brandon: Next meeting on permitting composting facilities is 8/26 and full subgroup meeting on 9/23.
- Bart: What are the unit costs (for mattresses)?
- Brandon: Depends on the contract and number of units, typically \$12-15/unit. Have a new customer- Ashley Furniture.
- David: Would like more information on MN battery law.
- Chad: Reminder on WIRMC call for papers.
- Bart: Tap AROW folks or DNR staff.
- Lynn: Next steps beyond presentations at the next meeting? Consensus on priorities? What next action steps?
- Bart: Discuss at next meeting.
- Jessica: Concerned about data we don't have on waste diversion and recycling.
- Jennifer: Clarified we only get recycling data from municipalities (Responsible Units of

		<p>recycling), but all landfill data. As we don't have commercial/industrial recycling data or municipal waste data, cannot calculate a municipal or statewide recycling rate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jessica: Important for measurement.</li> <li>• Bart: Data from RUs- some is good and others?</li> <li>• Brad: Considering code changes (NR 544 rule revision package).</li> <li>• Lynn: What changes?</li> <li>• Brad: MN does it differently. What if trucks had on-board scales?</li> <li>• Lynn: What's the objective of the data? What problem are we trying to solve?</li> <li>• Bart: (to Jessica) What is the specific agenda item you're looking for?</li> <li>• Jessica: Not an agenda item necessarily, just a concern.</li> </ul>
12:00	<b>Adjourn</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consensus to adjourn at 11:45 am.</li> <li>• Next meeting: November 3, 9:00-12:00</li> </ul>