Northeast Michigan Regional Materials Management Planning

Q3 SUMMARY NEWSLETTER

Committee Members

Connie Gerrie, MOA Solid Waste Management Authority

Leigh Ann Jewell, GFL

Cindy Johnson, Northeast MI Materials Management Authority

Rachel Smolinski, City of Alpena

Ted Fines, Habitat for Humanity

Maddie Khuri, Huron Pines RC&D

Cheryl Neilsen, Montmorency County

Jeff Gehring, City of Harrisville (Alcona County)

John Dietlin, Omni Metalcraft

Rob Pallarito, Northeast Michigan Council of Governments

DISCRETIONARY MMP MEMBERS

Bill Peterson, Alpena County
Adam Brege, Alcona County
Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, Iosco County
Mary Hardies, Montmorency County
Ted Handrich, Oscoda County

BUSINESS THAT GENERATES MANAGED MATERIAL

Alpena County: no appointment

Alcona County: no appointment

Iosco County: David Langley, P&L Development

Montmorency County: no appointment

Oscoda County: Lance Oldenburg, Cooper Standard Industries

What is it?

All counties throughout Michigan are currently updating their materials management plans (MMP). MMPs will guide counties in managing materials like recyclables, food waste, yard clippings, storm debris, and more, with a focus on sustainable practices such as recycling and composting.

MMPs will help residents and businesses keep valuable materials out of landfills, dispose of hazardous materials safely, and build infrastructure to capture recyclable materials like cardboard.

These plans are part of an updated Michigan law that establishes statewide recycling goals and standards. Each Materials Management Plan will outline strategies to achieve those goals and **municipalities within each county will need to approve the plan**.

County Representatives

Alpena County: Bill Peterson
Alcona County: Adam Brege
Iosco County: Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski
Montmorency County: Mary Hardies
Oscoda County: Ted Handrich
- **Proxy:** Michelle Knepp

Stay informed

The Northeast Michigan Regional Materials Management Committee is meeting monthly working towards development of a regional plan for materials management across all five counties.

This newsletter is designed to keep you informed on the planning timeline, key milestones, and upcoming opportunities – so you can easily share updates with your board and residents.

Your involvement is encouraged. You are welcome to attend meetings, provide feedback, and help shape the future of materials management in our region. This planning process will culminate in seeking formal approval of the resulting plan from municipalities to move it forward. Looking forward to your engagement!

2026 Meeting Schedule

Montmorency Oscoda Alpena Solid Waste Management Authority
6751 Landfill Rd | Atlanta, MI 49709
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm, third Thursday of each month.

Thursday, October 15, 2026 | Thursday, November 19, 2026
Thursday, December 17, 2026

Where are we in the process?

Establishing the Interlocal Agreement and Materials Management Planning Committees
(2024 - 2025)

Data Collection & Surveying
(Q3/Q4 2025)

Analysis, Opportunities, & Goal Setting
(Q1/Q2 2026)

Plan Drafting Finalization
(Q2/Q3 2026)

Public Comment Period Begins + Committee Approval
(Q3 2026 - Q1 2027)

Municipal Approval & Submission to EGLE
(Q1 2027 - Q3 2027)

⅔ of all municipalities are required to approve the plan before it is submitted to EGLE.

Plan Implementation
(2027 - 2029)

Provide Feedback on the Materials Management Plan

The draft plan sets goals for how the five-county region will manage recyclables and other materials, such as storm debris, over the coming years. Its main body outlines regional goals shared by all five counties, followed by county-specific appendices that describe how each county will support those goals.

- The NE MI Regional Materials Management Plan final draft is currently in public comment period. As required by law, each county must have a two-month public comment period that includes a public hearing.
- The plan is hosted on the Designated Planning Agency's webpage and is open for public comment from September 1st – October 30th.
- All counties have a printed copy of the plan if any public would like to provide verbal comment.

Please provide your input by following the link below, and encourage your residents and businesses to do the same!

https://kntn.io/MMP-NE-MI

State and Regional Resources

- Plan Development Items
- MMP Tools and Resources

Learn more about state resources. *kntn.io/8eKSHE*

- Comment on the plan, Meeting schedule, agenda, members, and minutes

Learn more about regional resources. *kntn.io/WVQGEw*