

Northeast Michigan Regional Materials Management Planning

NEWSLETTER

Q1 2026

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

Susan Avery, Big Creek Township (Oscoda 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

Michelle Knepp, 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.**

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!

County Representatives

Alpena County: Bill Peterson

Alcona County: Adam Brege

Iosco County: Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski

Montmorency County: Mary Hardies

Oscoda County: Jackie Bondar

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, April 16, 2026 | Thursday, May 21, 2026 | Thursday, June 18, 2026
Thursday, July 16, 2026 | *Future dates to be announced*



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 2026)

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

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

$\frac{2}{3}$ of all municipalities are required to approve the plan before it is submitted to EGLE.

Plan Implementation
(2027 - 2029)



Share Your Input on Materials Management Planning

The NE Michigan Regional MMP Committee developed a survey for residents and businesses across the five counties. Results included:

- Residents want more convenient recycling drop-off locations.
- Highest interest is in recycling traditional materials, bulky items, electronics, and household hazardous waste.
- Preferred education channels include social media and local government websites.
- Cardboard and mixed paper are the most prevalent recyclable materials that businesses generate
- Businesses need infrastructure to support their recycling efforts.

The Committee is in the process of incorporating feedback from the survey to develop Plan goals related to recycling, organic materials management, handling of special materials like HHW, siting and funding, and more.

Share your input on the materials management planning process by filling out [this form](https://kntn.io/ww0DWx). kntn.io/ww0DWx

State and Regional Resources

- Plan Development Items
- MMP Tools and Resources

[Learn more](https://kntn.io/8eKSHE) about state resources. kntn.io/8eKSHE

- Meeting schedule, agenda, members, and minutes

[Learn more](https://kntn.io/WVQGEw) about regional resources. kntn.io/WVQGEw

Webinar and Conference Opportunities

[Register for upcoming EGLE webinars](#) to support MMPs!

- NMMMA will be speaking on Recycling Authorities and Interlocal Agreements
 - April 7, 2026 | 10:30 am - 12:30 pm EST
 - [Register here](https://kntn.io/FZP93T). kntn.io/FZP93T
- Attend the Michigan Recycling Coalition's May 2026 Conference
 - [Register here](https://kntn.io/t9tJk3). kntn.io/t9tJk3

