

2025 MWMA FALL SUMMIT

September 16 – 18, 2025
Hotel Champlain, Burlington, VT



AGENDA

(as of July 23, 2025 – subject to change)

Tuesday, September 16th

7:30 am - 9:00 am

Breakfast Available

9:00 am – Noon

Urban Summit (PUBLIC SECTOR ONLY)

Join your colleagues from across the country for this closed-door session featuring candid dialogue on topics important to your success. Find out how other cities are dealing with problems that you face every day & share what works in your community.

Noon - 1:00 pm

Opening Luncheon

1:15 pm - 2:30 pm

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and Packaging Perspectives

Several states across the country have now passed EPR legislation aimed at holding producers responsible for recycling costs and managing waste more sustainably. This session will offer an overview of the different EPR laws enacted nationwide, including what's working, where challenges remain, and how others can learn from these experiences to advance EPR in our own communities.

2:30 pm - 3:45 pm	Problem Materials Part 1: Local governments face significant challenges when dealing with problem materials - items that are either difficult to process or may pose safety risks. This session will explore safe management and disposal strategies for materials such as: lithium-ion batteries, vape pens, paint, mattresses, solar panels and PFAS.
3:45 pm - 4:00 pm	BREAK
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Problem Materials Part 2:
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Opening Reception

Wednesday, September 17th

7:30 am - 9:00 am	Breakfast Available
9:15 am - 10:30 am	Ahead of the Storm: Disaster Debris Preparedness/Aftermath As weather events across the country become more frequent and more widespread, communities all across the nation must be prepared to act quickly and effectively. Speakers in this session will share their own experiences of reacting and adapting to increasing climate threats including through preparation, emergency coordination, and post storm debris management.
10:30 am - 11:45 am	Innovations in Technology As always, innovations in processing waste stream commodities – fueled largely by private-sector investment – aim to revolutionize the ways waste and recyclables are managed and processed. In this session a number of these promising and ambitious technologies will be explored.
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Luncheon
1:00pm – 2:00pm	Waste Management 2.0

Join us for a discussion of the challenges facing those in local governments looking to modernize waste management systems and fund pilot projects. This session will explore a wide range of possible solutions for solid waste departments, including new financing mechanisms, revenue streams, and partnerships.

2:00 pm - 3:15 pm

Closing the Loop on Food Waste

Nearly 120 billion pounds of food waste, or 30-40% of the entire food supply, is discarded in the United States every year.

Representing the largest component of materials in U.S. landfills, food waste increases greenhouse gas emissions, consumes large amounts of land, and strains operational resources.

Speakers in this session will highlight successful food waste reduction and organic recycling programs in their communities. Presenters will also explore financing options and share best practices for local leaders looking to advance sustainable food management.

3:15 pm - 3:30 pm

BREAK

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Illegal Dumping

Including waste from residential, commercial, and construction sources, illegal dumping continues to pose serious environmental, public health, and community safety concerns for local governments.

This session will address the challenges local leaders face in implementing successful illegal dumping prevention programs, including ineffective penalty enforcement, lack of public awareness, and limited resources. Best practices will also be discussed.

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Executive Committee Meeting

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Evening Reception

[Thursday, September 18th](#)

Breakfast Available

Environmental Tour