

# 2025 MWMA FALL SUMMIT

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



## AGENDA

(as of August 15, 2025 – subject to change)

### Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>

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**

#### *Remarks*

Sarah Reeves  
President of MWMA Executive Committee  
Executive Director, Chittenden Solid Waste District, VT

Emma Mulvaney-Stanak  
Mayor, City of Burlington

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.

Scott DeFife  
President, Glass Packaging Institute  
Producer Responsibility Advisory Board Member (Colorado)  
EPR Advisory Council (Maryland)

Jeff Fowler  
Deputy Director, Solid Waste Line of Business  
City of Seattle

Hannah Martinez  
Head of Advocacy, Indorama

Dylan de Thomas (Invited)  
VP of Public Policy & Government Affairs  
The Recycling Partnership

2:30 pm - 3:45 pm

### **Problem Materials Part 1: Lithium Ion-Batteries**

As a growing safety and fire hazard, Lithium-Ion batteries continue to present significant challenges for municipal waste management services and industry alike. This session will explore disposal best practices, highlight innovative detection technologies, and discuss the future recycling capacity for these types of materials.

Judy Jeevarajan  
Vice President & Executive Director  
ElectroChemical Safety Research Institute, ULRI

Todd Ellis  
VP, Services & Solutions, Call2Recycle

Lia Kiam  
Head of Strategy and Operations, Visia

3:45 pm - 4:00 pm

**BREAK**

4:00 pm - 5:15 pm

**Problem Materials Part 2:**

This session will explore safe management and disposal strategies for materials such as: paint, mattresses, and solar panels. Speakers will also discuss navigating the challenges associated with items that are banned from landfills.

Jen Holliday (*Moderator*)

Director of Public Policy & Communications  
Chittenden Solid Waste District

Jacob Saffert

Director of Eastern States, PaintCare

Mary Anne Horsman

Tough Stuff Recycling

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

**Opening Reception**

Located in the Green Mountain Foyer Ballroom.

**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.

Alex Helou

Assistant Director, Bureau of Sanitation  
City of Los Angeles

Alan Morrison  
Solid Waste Division Manager, Public Works Department,  
City of Orlando

Kanika Greenlee (Invited)  
Interim Deputy Commissioner, Public Works Department  
City of Atlanta

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.

Jeremy Labbe  
Division Manager, Casella Waste Systems

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

### **Luncheon - State of Play**

1:00 pm - 2:15 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.

Sarah Mason  
Resource Recovery Manager, City of Ann Arbor

Carlos De La Torre  
Director of Environmental & General Services, City of Tucson

Eugenia Manwelyan  
Manager, Raftelis

Klaas Franken  
Head of Growth, Convertus

2:30pm – 3:00 pm

### **The Role of AI in Waste Management**

As the rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) continues to impact our daily lives, its role in waste management is transforming the industry. From increasing fleet efficiency to promoting worker safety and streamlining operations, AI is embracing how we enable smart cities to efficiently handle waste.

Join us to learn more about the different ways AI is being integrated into smart waste management. Robert Marseglia will show us how Nord Engineering and Alia Service Ambientali are using the latest in digital innovation to preserve the Renaissance beauty of Florence, Italy.

Giuseppe Roberto Marseglia  
Board Member Waise Waste

3:00 pm- 3:30 pm

### **Worker Recruitment Strategies**

Description TBD

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

### **Closing Roundtable Discussion**

Join us for an interactive closing session as attendees engage with their fellow colleagues on three different issues impacting the waste management industry. Each table will include a mix of public and private sector participants and a moderator to support guided discussion.

Participants will then report out key takeaways and highlights to the rest of the room.

4:30 pm - 5:00 pm

### **Executive Committee Meeting**

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

### **Evening Reception**

Welcome Aboard! Please join us for an evening sunset cruise exploring the beautiful scenery of Lake Champlain. A dinner buffet will be served onboard.

*Note:* Boarding will begin at 5:45 PM. We'll be meeting at the [Spirit of Ethan Allen](#), which is about a 5-10 minute walk from the hotel. Attendees are suggested to bring a jacket or sweater.

### **Thursday, September 18th**

**Breakfast Available**

**Environmental Tour**