



EUP MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

EUP Regional Planning & Development Commission Office
2345 Meridian Street; Sault Ste. Marie

Wednesday, July 29, 2026
10:30 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order; Introductions
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of MMPC Minutes—June 15, 2026 (**ACTION ITEM**)
4. Presentation/Discussion: *Materials Management Goals, Objectives & Strategies*
5. Preliminary Survey Results
6. Staff/Member Updates
7. New Business—Next Meeting Date
8. Adjourn

Eastern UP Materials Management Planning Committee

Monday, June 15, 2026; 1:00 p.m.

**EUP Regional Planning & Development Commission
2345 Meridian; Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan**

Members Present

Allison Watkins, Village of Newberry	Beth Christiansen, LSSU
Jeff Hagan, DPA	Jim Smith, GFL
Jim Traynor, Chippewa County	Lisa Cryderman, GFL
Mark Eitrem, Sugar Island Township	Mike Patrick, Mackinac County
Sherry Kruch, Reina Recycling	Teresa Schanksi, HSC Foundation

Guest

Tracy Tomaszewski, EGLE	Aubree Carlisle, EGLE
Jelili Adebiyi, NMU	Jayna Steffel, Emmet County Recycling
Ashley McMurry, Emmet County Recycling	Aaron Purrenhage
Patricia Schiefer	

Staff

Jeff Hagan	Jenni Neal	Kim Wilcox	Matt Sawle
Seth Harris			

CALL TO ORDER; INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 12:50 p.m. by M. Patrick.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment addressed at this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MMPC MINUTES—JANUARY 20, 2026

J. Traynor moved to approve the January 20, 2026, EUP Materials Management Planning Committee minutes as presented. M. Eitrem supported. Motion passed.

PANEL DISCUSSION: Food Waste and Organics Processing

- Aubree Carlise, Food Waste Specialist; EGLE
- Jelili Adebiyi, NMU Faculty
- Jayna Steffel, Director & Ashley McMurry, Deputy Director; Emmet County Recycling

Each presenter provided a Power Point Presentation regarding Food Waste and Organics Processing. Some of the highlights of these presentations include:

Aubree Carlisle, EGLE

- The benefits of food waste diversion include financial, life of the landfills, food security, and economic benefits with an increase in jobs and a reduction of climate pollution.
- Food Waste Prevention is a Behavior Change so education on all levels is important to Local Governments, Businesses and Residents.
- Food Rescue is available through Feeding America statewide.
- Food Scrap Processing is achieved with composting and anaerobic digestion.
- Consider the following when goal setting for food waste reduction: (a) What is happening in the region, (b) Prevention campaigns, (c) Program implementation and support, and (d) Community engagement.
- There are grants available for implementation

Jelili Adebiyi, NMU (Upper Peninsula Case Study Data)

- 30-40% food produced in United States is wasted which could be composted or rescued.
- Most landfills should increase composting efforts
- Ongoing survey data indicate that awareness and implementation is important
- Barriers of composting include access, effort, and odor/pests.
- Possible Funding—Fee for services curbside composting, tax-funded subsidies, and landfill diversion (tax credit)
- Goals to be effective: Education, Outreach, and Increase Participation

Ashley McMurry & Jayna Steffel, Emmet County Recycling

- Emmet County Recycling Services include Material Recovery, Curbside & Dropoff, Transfer Station, Yard Waste, Food Scraps and Household Hazardous Waste Collection
- Workshops on Composting of Yard Waste and Food Scrap Collection are vital in educating users (residents and businesses)
- Various drop-off sites are located throughout the county
- Food Rescue begin with food access points to be distributed to Feeding America distribution, food pantries, soup kitchens, etc.
- Rural areas may want to consider a “smaller scale” operation beginning with education to increase community support.
- Backyard composting is also manageable in smaller areas

INCORPORATING ORGANICS RECYCLING INTO MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PLAN

The goals in the plan need to be in measurable steps. Education activities such as workshops and providing general information to residents/businesses, can be a goal to achieve. Food waste reduction and recovery can be localized with hosting workshops on backyard composting could be an achievable goal.

MEMBER/STAFF UPDATES

Members expressed the need for financial capacity and knowledge especially in rural areas. Residents will need to know how food waste reduction/composting works along with the benefits it can provide. A suggestion was made to create regional sites to showcase the implementation of composting. Financial support from the State would be helpful with the creation of composting educational materials and regional sites.

A discussion of the need for education of the disposal of lithium batteries was also highlighted with member updates. GFL has had two recent fires which have started due to lithium batteries. Collection and recycling of these batteries should be included in the Materials Management Plan.

EGLE stated that MMPC can request an extension for the completion of the Materials Management Plan if it is determined that extra time is needed.

Staff indicated that the Materials Management Survey has been shared with the public and local units of government. Reminders will be sent again as it would be beneficial to have an increase in responses.

JULY MEETING DATE

A doodle poll will be sent to members to determine the best time/date for the July Meeting. It is the preference of members to meet in-person rather than virtually. A suggestion was made to have the MMPC meet following the EUPRPDC Board meeting scheduled for July 29.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. following a motion by J. Traynor and M. Eitrem.



Goals and Objectives

Materials Management Planning Committee | July 29, 2026

Statewide Goals

- ▶ Support statewide efforts to improve collection of managed materials
- ▶ Support changes to Michigan legislation to improve collection of managed materials
- ▶ Support statewide funding programs for new and expanded recycling programs



Northern Lower and Upper Peninsula Goals



Bring together representatives of service providers, local officials, and stakeholders to meet and collaborate across broader northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula



Share data and information across regional boundaries to identify opportunities to expand materials collection

EUP Region Goals



Create a Materials Management Authority

County Goals

01

Meet a 25% municipal solid waste recycling rate by 2030
(percent of MSW waste recycled and composted)

02

Meet a 40% diversion rate by 2030
(percent of waste diverted from disposal. Including recycling, composting, reuse, recovery, donation, co-generation, digestion, etc.)

03

Adopt mechanisms to regulate service providers, collect reliable data, and provide benefits to local governments through service contracts and community host agreements

04

Create education campaign and expand marketing efforts for public awareness

05

Address special waste, C&D waste, large item removal

Goals can be achieved simultaneously

- ▶ Goal 1: Meet a 25% municipal solid waste recycling rate by 2030

(percent of MSW waste recycled and composted)

- ▶ Goal 4: Create education campaign and expand marketing efforts for public awareness



Goal 1: Meet a 25% municipal solid waste recycling rate by 2030

Goal 4: Create education campaign and expand marketing efforts for public awareness

Proposed Objectives for All Counties

- ▶ Educate and encourage municipalities to negotiate contracts for service
- ▶ Get better data: Include data and material end markets reporting requirement in all waste/recycling contracts
- ▶ Accept more materials at existing facilities (ie. Cardboard, glass)
- ▶ Form partnerships with large businesses to collect recycled material and report data of amount of material
- ▶ Create a recycling program for the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District and other schools and institutions (hospitals, prisons, etc.)
- ▶ Collaborate with State to have recycling service in State Parks and Prison facilities

Goal 1: Meet a 25% municipal solid waste recycling rate by 2030

Goal 4: Create education campaign and expand marketing efforts for public awareness

Proposed Objectives for Chippewa County

- ▶ Promote recycling service at Sault Ste. Marie site and township drop off sites
- ▶ Add larger trailers at drop off sites and/or more frequent trips to NTI
- ▶ Add a cardboard trailer at all drop-off locations
- ▶ Initiate curbside recycling in City of Sault Ste. Marie, Bay Mills Township, DeTour village, Kinross Charter Township, Rudyard village center, and Soo Township
- ▶ Offer recycling bins throughout downtown Sault Ste. Marie
- ▶ Expand recycling program at Lake Superior State University
- ▶ Create new organics waste recycling facility for county-wide drop off

Goal 1: Meet a 25% municipal solid waste recycling rate by 2030

Goal 4: Create education campaign and expand marketing efforts for public awareness

Proposed Objectives for Luce County

- ▶ Promote Village of Newberry recycling service
- ▶ Promote GFL recycling transfer center in McMillan Township
- ▶ Curbside recycling in Lakefield Township
- ▶ Create at least one new township facility for paper, plastic, glass, cardboard, and organic waste for county-wide drop off
- ▶ Offer recycling bins throughout downtown Newberry
- ▶ Expand Village of Newberry yard waste site to accept food waste

Goal 1: Meet a 25% municipal solid waste recycling rate by 2030

Goal 4: Create education campaign and expand marketing efforts for public awareness

Proposed Objectives for Mackinac County

- ▶ Promote Clark Township recycling service
- ▶ Rehabilitate GFL recycling transfer center in Moran Township for drop off service for Moran Township, Brevort Township, and St. Ignace Township residents
- ▶ Curbside recycling in City of St. Ignace, Clark Township, and Portage Township
- ▶ Rehabilitate US-2 location as new drop off site for paper, plastic, glass, cardboard, and organic waste
- ▶ Offer recycling bins throughout downtown St. Ignace
- ▶ Create new organics waste and recycling facility for county-wide drop off

Goals can be achieved simultaneously

- ▶ Goal 2: Meet a 40% diversion rate by 2030

(percent of waste diverted from disposal. Including recycling, composting, reuse, recovery, donation, co-generation, digestion, etc.)

- ▶ Goal 5: Address special waste, C&D waste, large item removal



Goal 2: Meet a 40% diversion rate by 2030

Goal 5: Address special waste, C&D waste, large item removal

Support diversion of electronic waste by implementing the following strategies:

- ▶ Promote Reina Recycling in education campaign
- ▶ Support Reina Recycling coordination with GFL
- ▶ Develop an e-waste pick up route
 - ▶ Bruce Township
 - ▶ Drummond Island Township
 - ▶ Cedarville
 - ▶ St. Ignace
 - ▶ Curtis
 - ▶ Newberry
 - ▶ Eckerman

Goal 2: Meet a 40% diversion rate by 2030

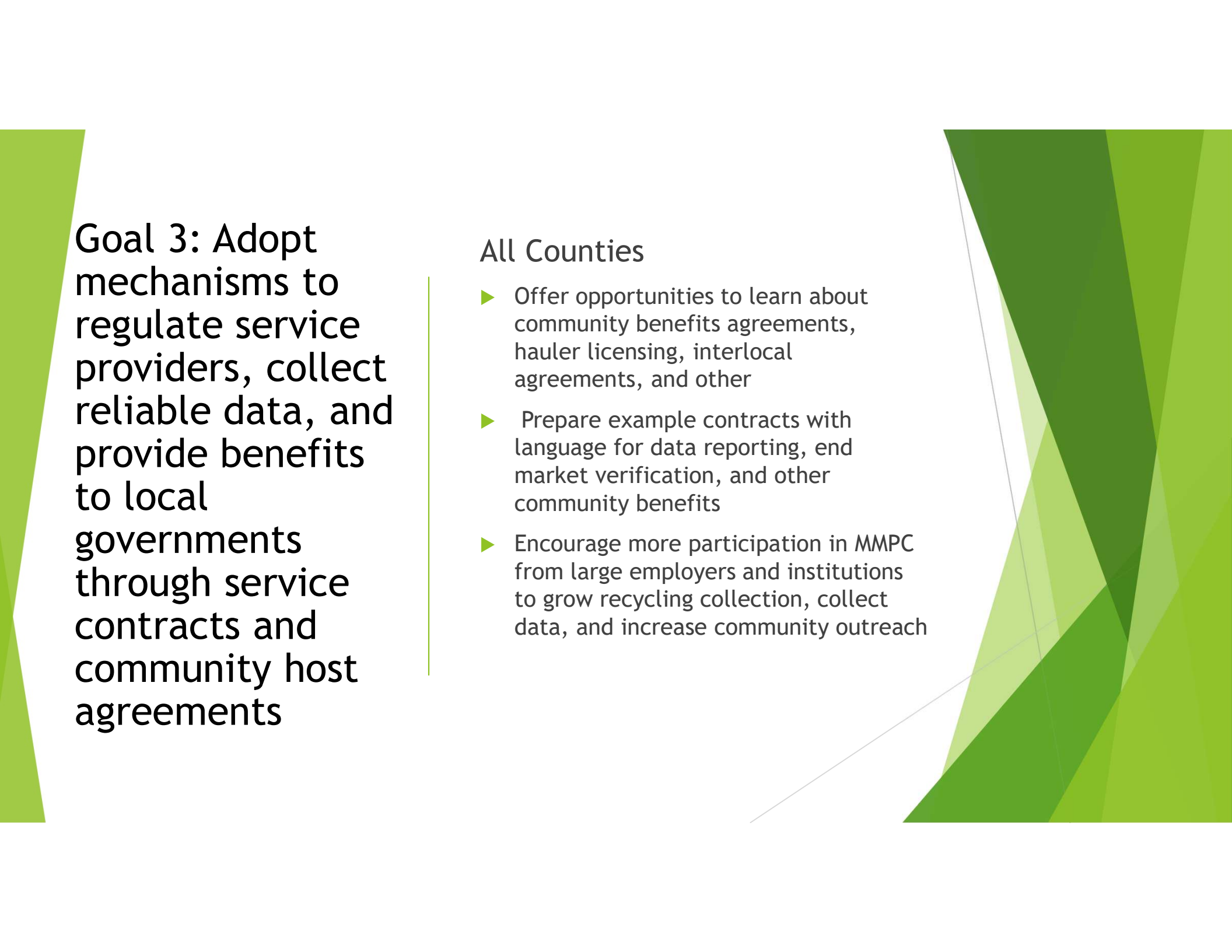
Goal 5: Address special waste, C&D waste, large item removal

Support diversion of Large Item / Hazardous Waste

- ▶ New contracted services to include:
 - ▶ Offer pay-per-pick up option for large item
 - ▶ Regular drop off events

Support diversion of Other Items

- ▶ Seek grants for boat wrap
- ▶ Promote existing businesses and services such as hardware stores, printer cartridge drop off, other mail-in programs,



Goal 3: Adopt mechanisms to regulate service providers, collect reliable data, and provide benefits to local governments through service contracts and community host agreements

All Counties

- ▶ Offer opportunities to learn about community benefits agreements, hauler licensing, interlocal agreements, and other
- ▶ Prepare example contracts with language for data reporting, end market verification, and other community benefits
- ▶ Encourage more participation in MMPC from large employers and institutions to grow recycling collection, collect data, and increase community outreach

EUP Region Goal

Create a Materials Management Authority

Develop an Eastern Upper Peninsula Authority Plan to identify service optimization based on shared goals and funding resources

- ▶ Transportation cost is reduced when sharing service across municipality and county boundaries
 - ▶ City of Mackinac Island/City of St. Ignace, Mackinac County
 - ▶ Drummond Island Township, DeTour Village/Township, Pickford Township, Raber Township, Chippewa County/Clark Township, Mackinac County
 - ▶ Hendricks Township, Moran Township, Mackinac County/Trout Lake Township, Chippewa County
- ▶ Rural communities can work together for new service
 - ▶ Lakefield Township, Luce County/Portage Township, Mackinac County