

Washtenaw County Consortium for Solid Waste Management



Meeting Agenda Thursday, June 23, 2005

Tour of the U-M Dana Building at 4:30 p.m.

Meet in the first floor Ford Commons
430 East University, Ann Arbor

Meeting begins at 5:00 p.m.

Room 3556

- *Map on Reverse* -

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1. Call to Order and Introductions
 2. Approval of Agenda for July 28th
 3. Approval of Minutes from June 23rd
 4. Local Community Updates
 5. Adjourn
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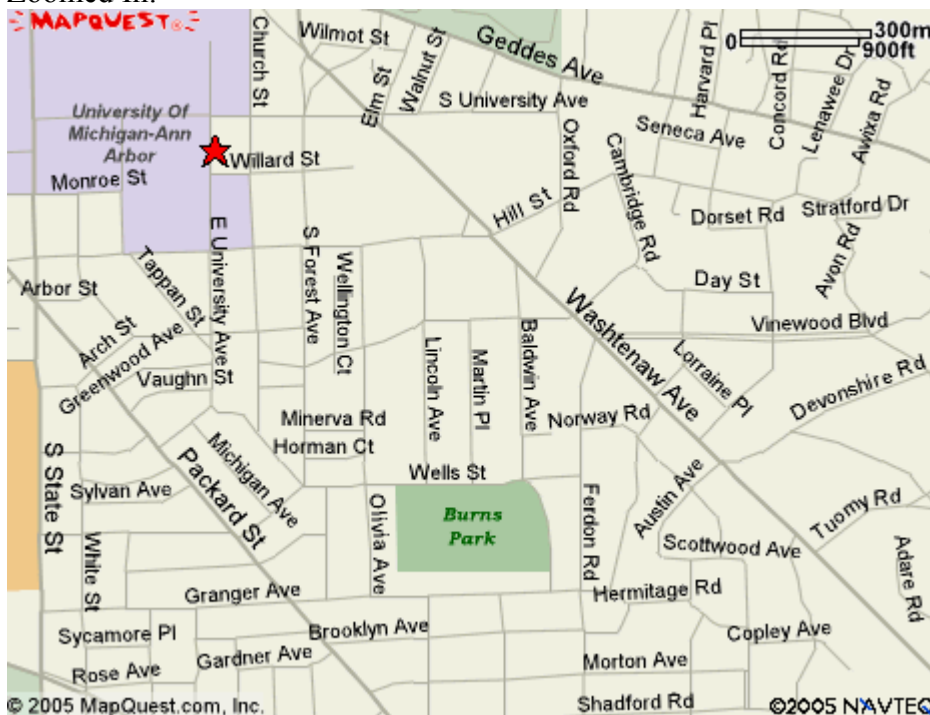
Township Representatives- If you are unable to join us, please designate a representative to attend in your place. Thank you!

Map to The University of Michigan's Dana Building on 430 E. University (a pedestrian walkway, see next page for driving and walking directions)

Zoomed Out:



Zoomed In:



Finding the Actual Building

The Dana Building is located on the east side of the Diag (the diagonally-shaped area of campus that includes many university buildings). Although the address is on East University, you cannot drive up to the building. East University becomes a pedestrian walkway north of S. University, so you will need to park on Church St., S. University or S. Forest and then walk into the campus/pedestrian-only area. Please see the parking options below that include walking directions to the building.

Parking and Walking Directions

-Parking is available at the parking structure on S. Forest and S. University for \$1.10/hr.

From the structure, walk N on S. Forest to reach S. University. Turn left on S. University until Church St. and turn Rt. Walk up Church to the parking structure. Turn left to enter the Diag. You will pass Dennison Hall. You will see the Dana Building ahead of you, a large stone building. There is a name marker sign to help you.

-If you arrive after 5, you can park for free in the Church St. Parking Structure.

From this structure, just walk straight, crossing Church St. and walking past Dennison Hall. The Dana Building will be ahead of you, a large stone building. There is a name marker sign to help you.

-Metered spots are also available on Church St. and S. University, coins are needed until 6 pm.

From Ypsilanti

From W. Michigan Ave, turn Left onto S. Hamilton St.

Merge onto I-94 W toward Ann Arbor

Take the State St. exit- Exit 177

Turn Rt. onto State St. Drive 2.5 miles

Turn Rt onto S. University Ave. after a ¼ mile (with the Michigan Union on your left).

The next street is E. University, but you need to drive past it because it becomes a pedestrian walkway where the Dana Building is located. Look for parking options. If going to the S. Forest structure, turn Rt. onto S. Forest from S. University. Follow the walking directions above.

From West of Ann Arbor:

From I-94 E take the 172 Exit toward Ann Arbor

Stay straight to go onto Jackson Rd. Drive 2.5 Miles

Turn Rt. onto State St. Drive ½ mile

Turn Left onto South University (with the Michigan Union on your Rt.)

The next street is E. University, but you need to drive past it because it becomes a pedestrian walkway where the Dana Building is located. Look for parking options. If going to the S. Forest structure, turn Rt. onto S. Forest from S. University. Follow the walking directions above.

From Saline

Go NE on W. Michigan Ave. toward S. Ann Arbor St.

Turn Left onto State Rd. State Rd. becomes State St.

Turn Rt. onto S. University Ave.

The next street is E. University, but you need to drive past it because it becomes a pedestrian walkway where the Dana Building is located. Look for parking options. If going to the S. Forest structure, turn Rt. onto S. Forest from S. University. Follow the walking directions above.

WCCSWM Meeting Minutes

May 26, 2005- MRF Education Center

Members Present:

Tracy Artley	University of Michigan
Michael-David BenDor	Superior Twp
Cindy Carver	Bridgewater Twp
George Danneffel	City of Saline
Mike Ogozaly	Milan
Bob Osterhout	Ypsilanti Twp
Corinne Sikorski	Sylvan Twp
Chris Simmons	City of Ypsilanti
Nancy Stone	City of Ann Arbor

Others Present

Darcy Dinse	Washtenaw County Plan/Env
Marshall Labadie	Washtenaw County Plan/Env
Mary Lirones	City of Saline

1. Call to Order
Simmons called meeting to order at 5:50.
2. Approval of Agenda for May 26.
Labadie added Treasurer's report after #3 and consortium approved agenda
3. Approval of Minutes from March 24.
Consortium approved the March Minutes.
4. Treasurer's Report
Labadie gave treasurer's report for the treasurer. WCCSWM has \$10,819.52 in its account, but the dues letters are going out this week, so the account balance will soon be higher.
5. Local Community Updates
 - City of Saline: Danneffel passed around the updated City of Saline F.Y.I. newspaper
 - Washtenaw County: Labadie updated the group on the **Chelsea Clean-up Day** on May 14th. The event was very well attended (approx. 500 cars). 13,000 lbs of home toxics were collected. Disposal costs for all three cleanup days was \$30,000. RAA was heralded for doing a great job handling so many customers. Labadie also went over the results of the surveys that were passed out during the cleanup days. *Interesting point- 2/3 of the respondents were interested in having LUG take a more active role in waste services in order to reduce cost and increase services. This question coincides with the release of the County's **Residential Solid Waste Report** where it was found that a single hauler system can decrease costs and increase services. The effect the waste hauler trucks

have on road systems is also an interesting part of the report and makes residents think about single hauler systems because of less damage to roads. BenDor suggested that the County get cleanup results publicized, talk with doctors and have them explain what 13,000 lbs of toxics in the landfills could do to public health in the county. Sikorski agreed, stating that it would be important at this time for residents of Sylvan twp to see how successful the cleanup day was. There was feedback from the group that they would like the survey results to be emailed to WCCSWM.

- Labadie explained that there is a change in the Aug. 20th cleanup day location, it is now at **Calvary Bible Church** at 8318 Carpenter Rd. from 9-1 pm. The other location is the Saline Farm Council Grounds on Sept. 24th also from 9-1 pm. The county website reflects the current changes.
- City of Ann Arbor: Stone welcomed everyone to the MRF and passed out pencils, magnets, and candy. She reminded all of the **Mayor's Green Fair** on June 17th 6-9 pm. The event will feature non-profits, Waste Knot businesses, and fuel-efficient vehicles.
- Stone also gave the **MRC update**. Her summary is included following the minutes. University of Michigan: Artley explained that the U-M student move-out was a success this year. Their donation program expanded to off-campus locations this year and U-M collected a record 14 tons of goods that were donated back to the community.
- Labadie talked briefly of the Waste Knot 1-day event for America Recycles Day at Leopold Brothers centered around America Recycles Day. A radio station will be present and the county is hoping for a nice turn-out.

6. Location for June 23rd Meeting

- Artley will check on reserving the Dana Building and getting a tour of its "green technology".
 - Stone explained that Mallet's Creek Library has been reserved for the July meeting, she will email Dinse the confirmation.
 - Obrinsky offered to set up the Milan Federal prison for October's meeting, with a tour as well.
 - Sikorski offered the Ypsilanti Co-op for a future meeting as its solar panels will soon be installed.
- It was decided that Executive Committee will meet next month after the meeting
 - Simmons suggested that we look ahead at the Best Practices Document.

7. Adjourn

- Simmons adjourned the meeting at 6:30pm.

Future Meetings

June 23rd Dana Building (University of Michigan Campus)- **Tour at 4:30, Meeting at 5:00**

July 29th Mallets Creek Library (Ann Arbor)

Michigan Recycling Coalition Annual Conference
www.michiganrecycles.org
Bay City, May 3-5, 2005 Selected Highlights

Probably newest topic was on **medical waste in drinking water**, sparked by an 8-29-04 Washington Post article from biologists researching fish in the Potomac near DC, discovering male fish laying eggs—and finding levels of pharmaceuticals in the river. USGS 99-00 test for 95 organic compounds in high concentration areas (downstream WWTP and in streams by large cattle herds) detected 1 or more compounds in 80% of the samples. Nursing Homes routinely have monthly “Police supervised flushes” of unnecessary medications related to patient discharges or deaths. “Pharming” is a rising youth recreation, with parties to consume mixed medicines lifted from family and friends homes. East Coast police are noting increase home thefts of pharmaceuticals.

Many medicines are hazardous wastes and fail the “T-Clip” test, meaning that they are considered risks for landfill disposal. 5-15% of problem meds include: nicoderm patches, nitroglycerine, coumidin, cancer treatments, Centrum Silver senior vitamins, which include cadmium, selenium, silver and other heavy metals. Plus medicines still include mercury as a preservative.

A few medications pose Homeland Security issues because they can be used as a reagent for mass poisonings.

Disposal options: landfill, flushing down toilet are not good options. Controlled burns in a HHW incinerator until recently was considered the best option, but new risks of critical burn temperatures and ash residue are now being scrutinized.

In many countries—Ireland, Australia, etc.—DUMP campaigns/Dump Unwanted Medicines Properly by taking them back to the pharmacy are in effect. This is not apparently legal in US.

For regulated drugs, only law enforcement/Police may witness the collection, inventory and accept these drugs into custody, put into sealed evidence lockers, and transport to a witnessed burn (similar to drugs seized in a drug raid). Speaker has held three medicine collection events and had on-hand a Police officer, pharmacist to help decipher the materials, and herself to log in every container, dose level and number of pills as required by law.

Speaker has two grants to study drug disposal from EPA and USDA. Info is posted at www.nerc.org <http://www.nerc.org/currentprojects.html#9> and other good info is at www.epa.gov/esd/chemistry/pharma/index.htm Speaker—Lynn Rubinstein, Exec Dir Northeast Recycling Council (Vermont) best session/speaker.

- **Keynote on Nova Scotia’s plan to work toward zero waste is at 50 % diversion** via mandated recycling, disposal bans (either take-back by manufacturers or payment by tonnages/sales towards recovery infrastructure), composting all organics (but not separated yard and food waste as provided in Toronto). Issues are now in C&D recovery, government needing to lead by example, standardized data to track real progress; and product redesign. (HP has developed a new laptop sold in Europe that can be entirely disassembled for \$1.25 and balking at a proposed \$10 deposit fee on all electronics, as proposed in Canada.) 3,000 jobs created by waste recovery today/2005 vs 2,000 in 2005.

- **Site tours included FCR's Saginaw MRF.** I had never seen it before and found it interesting and very clean. Their glass is still shipped to Chicago as cullet. Environmental Rubber **tire recycling plant** showed 150,000 tires/day shredded through a facility. Owner claims that including ¼ tires in a wood-fueled generator greatly reduces the NOX emissions and creates a much cleaner, more efficient burn. RAA/DOS does a better job on electronics collection than this year's tour site, CBC Recycling.

- Master Composter session with guru Lillian Dean from SOCCRA suggested that the intensive training and volunteer program she developed based on the Seattle Tilth and Toronto models may not be sustainable to other communities. She thought it was OK to have a range of compost education strategies—from quick tabletop displays and handouts, to 1-2, 2hour sessions as the advanced approach. Strongly suggested having a full-scale demo on-site with bin sales. She shared many of the new directions she's taking with the Rouge River project for "healthy landscapes," rain gardens, and demo sites at municipal facilities and the Detroit Zoo, loosely based on Seattle's "soils for salmon" programs. www.healthylandscapes.com Lansing/Steve Chalker has compost ed program support from Coop Ext Gary Heilig 517-676-7027, who schedules and provides the compost course and has a good series of powerpoint presentations.

- I asked people informally (outside the session) about their experiences/thoughts on monthly compost pickups. Huntington Woods people shared their experiences of reducing weekly compost pickups—first by dropping the pickups entirely and then trying monthly. H. Woods ended up restoring the weekly program because of public demand and from the steep fines from DEQ for yard waste illegally hidden in trash carts and revealed during landfill audits (stepped up in response to the concerns about accepting prohibited materials from Toronto waste). Lansing was asked to consider monthly compost pickups in 2004 and Council did not support this move at that time. A few SOCCRA communities are having serious rat problems—thought to have started in an abandoned warehouse district and then spread along the railroad tracks. Lilian Dean thought going weekly was possible, but cautioned that an intensive education program would be needed—at least .5 to 1.0 FTE for two years to provide educational programs, return calls, make site visits, develop promotional materials, etc. She felt that educational staffing was warranted given the long-term staffing reduction/savings from fewer solid waste drivers on the compost routes.

- www.greenglass.com inventor Sean Penrith from Australia talked about recycling glass bottles into wine glasses, tumblers, flower vases, etc. and is eager to pay \$.40/bottle plus shipping for unbroken glass bottles to go to his newest Wisconsin plant. He also spoke about spinning off this business as a sustainable venture with a "greenglass factory in a trailer" that is designed to provide employment for 16 people, anywhere in the world, especially in undeveloped areas. This outlet could be promoted directly to local restaurants—they could box up their empties in the delivery boxes and ship for free—plus make some \$\$\$. The DOS/RAA may be interested in providing an area to collect whole glass bottles for this venture.

- I got a copy of the "**World of Waste**" **30-minute DVD** from Lenawee County—a dramatic presentation of a polluted future, for which downtown Adrian was dramatically "trashed" for a weekend and locals served as extras.

- Attached are the Reaching Diverse Populations handouts.

- Huntington Woods has started running a weekly rearpacker on recycling routes to pick up unflattened cardboard and the residents LOVE it. The same truck is used for compost collection, emptied, and then routed for cardboard.
- Bay City waste summaries attached—implemented autocarts in 98/99. Municipally-provided collections for waste, recycling and yard wastes. Manages own compost center.
- Sarah Archer’s company promotes her as a “resultant” instead of a consultant. She offers “greenwise” education programs.
- (Kate Malby) sent a series of conservation tips to the phonebook company to use as fillers and was happy to see that most were used, free of charge. Some communities are able to get a free info page on recycling in area phonebooks.
- Berrien County uses the “**Earth Flag Program**” from Illinois with 5 steps for schools (reduce, etc.) Successful schools get a plaque and Earth Flag.
- SOCCRA provides free access to a heavy duty paper shredder (14-sheets/time) at their drop-off, which is very popular. Sometimes they need to set 15 minute limits/time to users.
- Solid waste forum talked about a proposed state \$7.50/ton landfill surcharge to discourage out-of-state trash. The funds would be redistributed to municipalities to implement recycling programs. Communities benefiting directly from local “host landfill fees/payments” were understandably less enthusiastic about surcharges, since that step would cancel out their payments, which can be used for any programs, not just recycling. The majority of attendees were supportive of landfill surcharges. The discussion began to go into standardized benchmarks to measure recycling.
- Jim Fry coordinated a discussion on setting up expanded bottle bill collection areas, separate from grocery stores.
- The Governor’s Office and MDEQ are sponsoring a workshop on June 20-22 in Grand Rapids “Eco-Innovation 21: The local/global imperative. More info at www.michigan.gov/deqworkshops
- Last, but not least, special thanks to **Nancy Hawkins, MRC, who purchased at the MRC auction a recycled tire display to donate to the Ann Arbor MRF ed center.** I will post a donation card by the display mirror and send her a thank you note. # # #
 --compiled by City of Ann Arbor attendees Nancy Stone and Brook Wilke, who was a volunteer in return for free conference admission!