

Maine Resource Recovery Association (MRRA)
Conference May 8-9, 2023



Keynote:
Materials Management
Priorities and Updates

May 8, 2023

Susanne Miller, Director, Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Protecting Maine's Air, Land and Water

Materials Management Priorities and Updates

- Staffing
- Reporting
- Program Updates
- Legislative Updates
- What's Next



Staffing

Congratulations and thanks!

- Paula Clark – 44 years
- Cyndi Darling – 39 years

Carla Hopkins
Division
Director

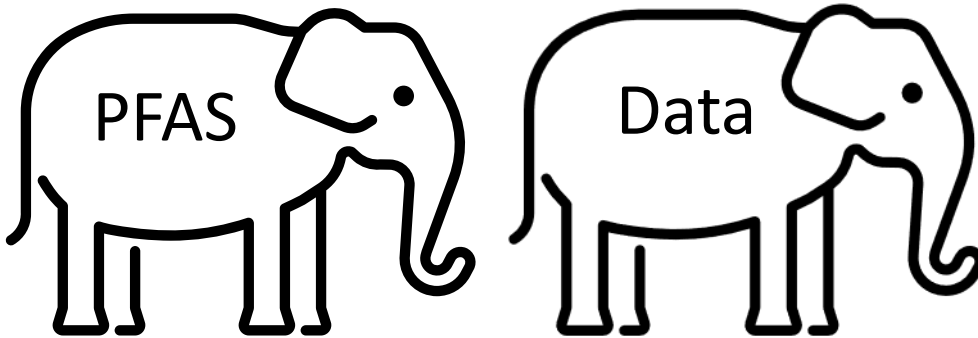
Mike Jakubowski
Residuals Unit

Eric Hamlin
Solid Materials Unit
(Acting)

Cherrie Plummer
Hazardous Waste
Unit

Brian Beneski
Sustainability Unit

Mark King
Organics
Management
Specialist



Reporting

- **2023 Waste Generation and Capacity Report 38 M.R.S. § 2124-A:**
 - Waste generated: 2020 and 2021 = ~1.4M tons
 - Maine's recycling rate 2020 and 2021 ~34%
 - MSW Disposal: Landfills ~56% / WTE ~44%
 - 9 operating landfills accepting MSW
 - 3 operating WTE facilities
 - 31 small municipal or generator landfills
 - Unknowns
 - MRC facility in Hampden
 - JRL expansion, Hatch Hill vertical increase
 - Sludge waste stream
 - Regional capacity issues



Reporting

- **2023 Annual Product Stewardship Report – 38 M.R.S. § 1772(1):**

Beverage containers

Certain consumer batteries

Cell phones

**Mercury containing:
thermostats, auto switches,
and lamps (light-bulbs)**

**Latex and oil-based
architectural paint**

**E-waste including video
displays (TVs, monitors,
laptops, tablets, etc.)
gaming devices, and
printers**

Program Updates

Stewardship Program for Packaging (38 M.R.S. §2146)

- Several stakeholder meetings underway since December 2022
- Tomorrow May 9th next stakeholder meeting!



Drug take-back Stewardship Program (38 M.R.S. §1612)

- Two SO's selected and plans approved by DEP:
 - Inmar and Med-Project
- Program up and running mid-late June
- Some rulemaking may be required

Program Updates

Solid Waste Diversion Program (38 M.R.S . §2201-B)

- Compost school and waste diversion workshops in 2023
- Waste diversion grants Round 1 awarded \$139,364 - 5 recipients! Anticipate total of \$250,000 for 2023
- AmeriCorps member Dominique Dispirito
 - Community coordination – several communities
 - Waste diversion listserv – 168 members
 - GIS and mapping

Post Consumer Recycled Content Program (38 M.R.S. §1615)

- Manufacturers to report % of recycled content in plastic beverage containers in 2024
 - Post consumer recycled content: 25% by 2026; 30% by 2031
- Rulemaking will be required; New staff to be hired after July 1



Legislative Updates - 2023

THERE ARE SO MANY BILLS !!!!!

- Topics run the gamut related to: bans, recycling, waste hierarchy, waste capacity, organics management, reporting requirements, beverage containers, and more
- MM legislation not yet signed into law from 131st
- Review of some of the laws that have passed out of ENR but have not yet hit the floor
- Review of some other laws tabled
- Review of bills still being heard
- ...And more still coming!



Sludge and PFAS Updates

Background

- 130th Legislature/2022 - LD 1911, LD 1639
- Late February/Early March 2023: JRL – no more sludge
- March 8, 2023 – legislative briefing
- Actions by DEP: Temp sludge transfer; Regional communications; Stakeholder engagement

Moving forward:

- Stabilized but everyone uneasy – more solutions needed!
- Actions by DEP: Continued stakeholder engagement; MEWEA and DEP joint study; ID range of options/solutions and costs
- Full update and potential proposal for funding investments to legislature planned for 2024
- Several stakeholders independently looking for solutions



What's Next

This spring/summer:

- Fed SWIFR \$ coming > \$500K! Statewide waste characterization and MMMP development
- Other Federal funding may become available
- June
 - 5-9th Maine Compost School
 - RFP for Round 2 WD grants to go out – anticipate ~\$125,000
 - Pharma take-back program begins!
- Waste diversion workshops
- Continued stakeholder meetings: EPR Packaging Rules; Sludge
- Launch post consumer recycled content beverage program



What's Next

This fall/winter:

- Fall:
 - October 2-6th Maine Compost School
 - Continue stakeholder meetings: EPR Packaging rule; Sludge management
- January 2024:
 - Maine Materials Management Plan
 - Annual Stewardship Program Report
 - Report on PFAS and leachate testing to legislature
 - Update and options to legislature for sludge management



Questions and Feedback?

