



**Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority
Recycling Coordinators Meeting
February 18, 2026**

Meeting Summary

The Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (MCMUA) hosted an in-person Recycling Coordinator meeting on February 18, 2026, at the Morris County Library, 30 East Hanover Avenue, Whippany, New Jersey. The meeting was held from 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM with a total of 47 recorded attendees. Of these attendees, 23 are designated Municipal Recycling Coordinators (MRC) and 7 are CPWMs. The NJDEP requires all MRCs to attend one County-held meeting per year and 23 out of Morris County's 39 MRCs met this requirement by attending this meeting. The meeting was approved for 3 CRP Classroom credits, 3 total CPWM credits (2 Information Technology and 1 Management), and 3 Public Health Continuing Education Credits (CEUs).

This meeting is one of five planned MCMUA MRC meetings for the year 2026, following the NJDEP requirements that New Jersey Counties must hold bi-annual meetings with their MRCs. In preparation for this meeting, the MCMUA reached out to all 39 municipalities in 2025 to update information on the haulers, end markets / MRFs, and depot services of each municipality. This information was used to review municipal websites and reported errors that needed updates to each MRC. This allows us to correctly inform Morris County residents and update the MCMUA website. The results of this project and a review of Recycle Coach satisfies the NJDEP requirement that the first meeting must have a focus on municipal recycling websites and improving the accuracy of listing all potential materials for residents and commercial institutions.

Welcome, Introduction and Breakfast

Attendees arrived, signed in, collected their nametags, and enjoyed a continental breakfast and coffee prior to the start of the meeting. The meeting took place in the Public Meeting room of the Morris County Library and began with a quick introduction from all attendees.

Anthony Marrone, Morris County's Recycling Coordinator, reviewed the agenda and credits offered by this class and reminded everyone to stay for the entire meeting. He then reviewed program updates with Michelle Chavanne, Morris County's Clean Communities Coordinator. They reviewed the phone survey results conducted at the end of 2025 and suggested towns review their recycling contracts to confirm what materials are acceptable for their curbside and depot programs to better inform residents. Markets for materials and educational tools (i.e. the School Recycling Toolkit, business food waste flyer, and Municipal Tonnage Grant Reporting Checking) were reviewed as well.



Anthony then introduced the speakers for the Household Hazardous Waste and Solid Waste Updates.

HHW & Solid Waste Updates

James Deacon, Morris County's Solid Waste Coordinator, reviewed updates on the transfer station tipping fees for 2026, highlighting how all fees decreased by approximately \$2 except for Type 25 materials (animal processing), which remained the same. The importance of PPE was also highlighted.

Stephen Adams, Morris County's Hazardous and Vegetative Waste Manager, then reviewed the HHW drop-off event days for 2026. He emphasized that the locations remained the same but are on different days. He then clarified that the MCMUA will NOT be accepting vapes for the foreseeable future until an in-state vendor is found, but he can refer municipalities to vendors for their convenience. Finally, he reviewed the updated vegetative waste pricing, highlighting that the pricing structure remains the same except for a \$4/CY surplus charge will be applied for materials being delivered in compostable bags (a \$2 increase from the previous year).

Recycling Market Updates

Eric Gabrielson, Republic Services' Operations Manager, reviewed the current export markets and domestic markets, stating things are currently running smoothly for their organization. Important topics discussed include how PET will be hard to move over the next year from information he received from his suppliers noting low-cost virgin materials, flooded domestic materials, etc. Republic Services is building a new facility in Allentown and stressed that haulers should remove snow from the top of their covered containers to avoid contamination and hazardous conditions for workers. Finally, he encouraged all MRCs to continue promoting awareness of the hazards of batteries, as it has decreased hazards in their facility.

Morris County Division of Public Health Updates

Joseph Schmidt, an investigator for Morris County's Division of Public Health, reviewed requirements under 7.26A-11.1-4 to include in municipal recycling notifications twice a year. It was highlighted that a minimum of 3 inspections is required to be completed by each MRC throughout one calendar year.

He then reviewed the notice of recycling exemptions and how this differs from tonnage reporting for recycling depots and convenience centers. He reviewed the difference between a recycling depot and convenience center and informed MRCs to login to my.nj.gov to check on their exemption status. If a municipal has an exemption, they must complete a separate tonnage report for the state. Joseph emphasized that the state will be giving Morris County municipalities additional



time to submit these reports. If any MRC needs additional help, they should contact Joseph or the Morris County Division of Public Health.

He also mentioned that haulers who do not cover their loads with tarps will be fined, as this is a littering concern. MRCs were encouraged to speak with their haulers about this issue first. If they do not add tarps, the MRCs may call the NJDEP hotline for illegal littering at 877-Warn-DEP and they may request to be confidential (contact information is collected but not shared) or anonymous (contact information is not collected). Illegal dumping signs are also available through the Department of Public Health and may be requested by an MRC.

Recycle Coach Access & Edits

Kim Stuart, Senior Customer Service Manager for Recycle Coach, led a live walk-through demonstration of the Recycle Coach website. She demonstrated how to edit the app to make it town specific and explained to reach out to tech support if the updates do not download to the app within a day. She reminded MRCs to be patient and to check to ensure that the app was not updated with your town's specific information. She also mentioned that Recycle Coach will help with marketing tools to increase the number of participants. If MRCs wish to learn more, there are additional training courses that they may complete.

Break

A 5-minute break was held following the Recycle Coach presentation.

MRC Responsibilities and MCMUA Tips for the MTG Process

Anthony Marrone reviewed MRC responsibilities, which included information about their annual responsibilities and enforcement action. He reviewed that each MRC must go on a minimum of 3 inspections per year and explained what a notice of violation is. He then reviewed the Morris County recycling rates and meaning of the values. He also conducted a live walk through the MCMUA MRC webpage to show where MRCs may find resources to complete their tonnage reports.

Alessia Eramo, Morris County's Recycling Education and Training Administrator, reviewed local ordinances and how they determine who enforces specific recycling guidelines. She reviewed individual town ordinances and presented suggestions for how towns can update them to improve their recycling activities. It was emphasized that updating ordinances can lead municipalities to receive higher tonnage reimbursements. MRCs that wish to update their ordinances may reach out to the MCMUA for assistance.



Michelle Chavanne reviewed generator recycling notifications and tonnage letters. She highlighted unique notifications from municipalities, including a new resident welcome package, newsletter notifications, and virtual notifications to reach additional residents. For generator recycling tonnage letters, she mentioned the importance of tailoring letters to be specific to who you are mailing. Additionally, municipalities should consider sending letters to food service establishments to begin working to reduce food waste.

NJDEP Division of Sustainable Waste Management

Erin Jenson, NJDEP's Environmental Specialist, provided a walkthrough of the tonnage reporting process, an explanation of all necessary documentation and resources, and proper use of grant funding. She reviewed how the values are calculated, common questions and errors that are often made in the reporting process, and the submission process for MRCs to follow. She provided a reminder to check previous reports to ensure no information is lost and that all information has been included before being submitted. Her presentation concluded with a program timeline and expectations.

The NJDEP and MCMUA presentations on MTG tips and the reporting process satisfies the NJDEP requirement where one meeting must have a focus on initiatives to improve the MTG reporting and effective data collection methods.

Meeting Wrap-Up and Reminders

Anthony Marrone concluded the meeting with a quick overview of upcoming events, 2026 Class A Facility tours, and contact information.

Lunch

Lunch was served at 1:30 pm following the conclusion of the meeting. Attendees were able to take the lunch to go if they wished.