



ILCSWMA 2024 Conference

October 29 & 30, 2024

Marriott Hotel and Convention Center, Normal IL

Continental Breakfast, 8 am, Redbird D
Sponsor Exhibit Tables All Day

Keynote Speaker, 9 am, Redbird C The Ripple Effect: Outreach and Education in Sustainability



Elisabeth Reed has served as the Director of the Illinois State University Office of Sustainability beginning in June of 2019. Since then, she has led the University to develop its first Sustainability Strategic Plan, integrated Zero Waste practices into campus operations, and created innovative programming with students, faculty, staff and community members. Prior to this position, Reed taught in the Fashion Design and Merchandising program at ISU – connecting sustainability and environmental justice issues into textiles and product development courses, while also developing the award-winning Fix It Friday program. Reed has a master’s degree in fashion design from the Savannah College of Art and Design and an undergraduate degree in architecture from the University of Cincinnati.

Plenary Session, Special Materials Management, 10 am Redbird C

James M. Jennings: Illinois EPA 2025 Priorities



James was appointed as the Director of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency on September 13, 2024. Prior to the appointment, he served as Interim Director since July 16, 2024. He was also named Deputy Director of the Illinois EPA in April 2023. As Deputy Director, James was responsible for the day-to-day oversight of issues that have an intersecting impact on the Illinois EPA’s Bureaus of Air, Land, and Water, as well as the Division of Laboratories. Prior to becoming Deputy Director, James served the Illinois EPA in several capacities, including as the Materials Management and Compliance Section Manager for seven years and as Assistant Legal Counsel to the Illinois EPA’s Bureau of Land for three years.

Jason Linnell: Electronics Recycling



Jason is the Executive Director of the National Center for Electronics Recycling (NCER), where he leads activities such as research on electronics recycling data and policy, and management of the Electronics Recycling Coordination Clearinghouse (ERCC). Under Jason’s direction, NCER manages and oversees the statewide networks of collectors and recyclers for the Oregon State Contractor Program and Vermont State Standard Plan and administers the Illinois and South Carolina Manufacturer Clearinghouses.

Jacob Saffert: PaintCare - Paint Product Stewardship Update



Jacob has over a decade of experience in the waste, recycling, and sustainability. He started with PaintCare's Minnesota program in 2019 before becoming the Minnesota and Illinois program manager in 2023. Prior to joining PaintCare, Jacob managed the Anoka County (MN) household hazardous waste program, which served a county of more than 300,000 residents. Jacob studied Political Science and Environmental Studies at St. John's University and has a certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Matt Stephens: Battery Collection and Recycling Programs



Matt is the Program Coordinator for Call2Recycle. His ever-expanding duties include being the point of contact for battery recycling programs in regulated states, exploring public and private sites for collection, conducting safety trainings, and being asked by everyone if he can take their batteries. Matt currently lives in Washington D.C. with his fiancée.

Break, Redbird D - 11 am

Sustainability, Redbird A, 11:15 am to 12:15 pm

Innovating Recycling Markets: State Strategies and the NextCycle Approach



Elisa Seltzer, is a Senior Consultant for Resource Recycling Systems since 2019, and the NextCycle Michigan Project Manager. Prior to RRS, Elisa spent 30 years with Emmet County, Michigan, as the public works director. During her tenure, she helped the county reach a diversion rate approaching 50%, spearheaded the successful bin-to-cart transition for six municipalities, and managed a regional facility that included a material recovery facility (MRF), a transfer station, and a compost facility. She also collaborated with private haulers and government stakeholders, oversaw the solid waste management planning process, developed markets for many hard-to-recycle materials, and developed and oversaw the residential and commercial curbside routes and drop-site recycling sites in Emmet and four partner counties. In her role as an RRS senior consultant, Elisa leads NextCycle Michigan, a cutting-edge program driving solutions for a circular economy in Michigan.



Julie Staveland, is the Assistant Division Director for the Materials Management Division (MMD) within the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE), and Director of the State Energy Program. She is responsible for administering energy, pollution prevention, and recycling grant and technical assistance programs. Programs range from energy efficiency and renewable energy, food waste reduction, recycling infrastructure, and the electrification of medium and heavy-duty vehicles, to installing electric vehicle charging infrastructure throughout the state to include establishing program objectives, goals, and priorities, and determining operating policies and implementing methods within the context of federal, EGLE, and MMD policies, procedures, and guidelines. Julie also coordinates the Catalyst Communities Initiative.

Enforcement, Redbird B, 11:15 am to 12:15 pm

Landfill Cover Systems



Tom Hilbert has worked in the solid waste industry since 1992. As a Regional Engineer he is responsible for regulatory compliance, permits, overseeing capital projects, media relations, and legislative matters for Waste Connections. He has been an active in NWRA Illinois Chapter for more than 30 years, including serving as the Chapter Chair for several terms, Legislative Chair, and most recently, as the Technical Committee Chair. He has also served as the President and Board Member of the SWANA Illinois Chapter. He has worked with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency on the initial implementation Title 35 IAC 811 rules governing municipal solid waste as well several revisions to the 811 rules. Mr. Hilbert has an undergraduate degree in Geophysics and Master of Science in Civil Engineering (Environmental).



Dominic Remmes is a Regional Engineer with Waste Connections. He is responsible for various aspects of design, permitting and environmental compliance for landfills, transfer stations and material recovery facilities in northern Illinois and northern Indiana. His over 30 years' experience in the solid waste industry also includes business management of landfills and waste hauling operations. Mr. Remmes is a Registered Professional Engineer.

Lunch and Awards, 12:30 pm, Redbird D

Sustainability, Redbird A, 1:30 to 2:30 pm

National Strategy for Reducing Food Loss & Waste, and Recycling Organics



Julie Schilf is an Environmental Scientist with the US Environmental Protection Agency's Region 5 Great Lakes office. She joined the EPA in 2006 as a Geographic Information Systems specialist and currently works in the Land, Chemicals, and Redevelopment Division providing technical assistance to states, businesses, and organizations looking to improve waste reduction and recycling efforts. As the coordinator for the region's Sustainable Management of Food program, Julie convenes meetings with stakeholders to improve the food system, and assists with the development of strategies, policies, and tools to address food loss and waste in support of the 2030 Food Loss and Waste goal. Julie has a BA in Environmental Policy and a Master of Public Administration from Roosevelt University.



Jennifer Nelson works for Seven Generations Ahead as a zero waste expert. She works with communities, institutions, businesses, schools, events and residents to develop sustainability goals and to take those goals from idea to action. This includes strategic planning, waste and cost analysis, outreach, education and more. She is a Founding Board Member of the Illinois Food Scrap & Composting Coalition and a Co-Lead for the Wasted Food Action Alliance, through which she actively works to reduce food waste and increase composting and recycling opportunities.

Enforcement, Redbird B, 1:30 to 2:30 pm

Gas Collection and Control Systems at Landfills



Jakub Sowa leads Tetra Tech's Landfill Gas Design Center, located in Naperville, Illinois. He has twelve years of experience designing and permitting gas collection and control systems for solid waste facilities. He specializes in landfill gas system solutions, modeling gas flow generations and designing phasing plans for system installation.

Sustainability, Redbird A, 2:45 to 3:45 pm

NEW Environmental Education Curriculum



Kristi Morris has been with the Office of Environmental Education for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency since 2003. She is responsible for several annual programs such as the statewide Poster, Poetry and Prose Contest for 5th and 6th grade students that highlights a different environmental issue each year on a rotating basis; the Dive In! program that travels throughout Illinois each fall to teach students about the importance of protecting and conserving natural resources; and the Sangamon County Earth Stewardship Day, which is a cosponsored multi-agency, one-day event for approximately 1,000 fourth grade students to introduce environmental awareness and stewardship. She is also a Project WET (Water Education Today) Facilitator and a member for the Environmental Education Association of Illinois. Kristi exhibits and presents at several events throughout the year, assists with producing educational material such as the NGSS-aligned curricula units, and helps to oversee the Illinois Recycling Education Program with Recycle Coach.



Eli Dollarhide is the Environmental Education Coordinator in Illinois EPA's Chicago Office. Since joining IEPA last January, he has expanded the reach and scope of the agency's educational programming in Chicago and northern Illinois by partnering with museums, non-profits, and local government groups. Eli previously directed an environmental and archaeological research project in the Middle East that studied the ecological impacts of early irrigation practices. His career in public outreach and education also includes working as a park ranger with the US Army Corps of Engineers at Lake Shelbyville. Eli is a National Geographic Explorer and earned his PhD from New York University.

Empowering Peace and Justice Education Curriculum



Mary S. Allen, ILCSWMA's administrative coordinator, has promoted environmental stewardship to all ages for thirty-plus years as a former elementary science teacher and SWANCC's recycling & education director. In a new chapter, she is an advocate for the environment as a World Citizen Peace Ambassador.

Enforcement, Redbird B, 2:45 to 3:45 pm

Permitting for Composting and Manure Application



Paul Walker is an ISU Professor Emeritus who retired in 2013, after 33 years teaching and conducting research in ruminant nutrition and composting/manure management. He currently operates DI Walker Consulting, where his work focuses on beef cattle nutrition and management, and agriculture and urban waste recycling, specializing in composting.

His research and dissemination efforts have been recognized with several awards such as the 2023 Illinois Extension Agriculture Association Hall of Fame inductee; a 2009 ISU Million Dollar Club inductee; the 2008 Illinois Pork Producers Association, Industry Spotlight recipient; a 2003 ISU Outstanding Researcher recipient; the 2003 Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Society Honor Award; and the 1993 Illinois Recycling Association Research and Development of the Year Award recipient.

Break, Redbird D, 3:45 pm

Sustainability, ISU Dining Center Tour at Watterson Towers, 4 to 5:15 pm

Katie Vogler, Ecology Action Center, Coordinator

Meet at the registration table by 3:55 pm

Enforcement, Redbird B, 4 to 5:15 pm

Open Dumping/Burning Case Studies



Paul Cooney, is the Director of the Solid Waste Management Department for Ogle County. He has been with Ogle County since 2014, and was named Director in 2022 after Steve Rypkema's retirement. Paul has served the citizens of Ogle County in the areas of solid waste enforcement, providing waste reduction and recycling initiatives, and waste reduction education. Paul is an IEPA certified inspector and also serves on his local fire protection district as a firefighter, training officer, and hazardous materials response team. Paul lives outside of Rochelle with his family and enjoys fishing, hunting, camping and sports, especially when his two kids are playing.



Brian Gift is currently the Director of Land Use with LaSalle County, Illinois. He has a degree in Urban and Regional Planning degree from the University of Illinois and has worked various positions within municipal, county, and non-profit entities. Brian is experienced in building/zoning/planning/flood/solid waste administration and enforcement.

Tracy Sumpter has been the Director of Macon County Environmental Management since 2020. She is a Certified Delegated Inspector and the Director of the Macon County Planning & Zoning Department. She is a member of the Debris Management Team and a team leader for Damage Assessment. Along with her assistant Amy McKinney, she performs open dumping, open burning, and open and closed landfill inspections. Tracy and Amy oversee the single stream recycling for the unincorporated areas of Macon County, as well as paint and electronic collections.

Amy McKinney has been in the Administrator position for Macon County Environmental Management since 2022. She is a Certified Delegated Inspector for the County, is responsible for issuing waste haulers licenses - assuring that the waste haulers are in compliance with county ordinances, oversees Macon County's special recycling programs and collections, as well as single-stream recycling. Additionally, she speaks at local schools and community group meetings about the benefits of waste prevention. Amy is a member of Macon County's Local Emergency Planning Committee, Damage Assessment Team, and Debris Management Team.

Technical Writing for Reports



Dustin Burger is an Environmental Specialist with Illinois EPA with 31 years of enforcement experience.



- **Happy Hour & Raffle- 5:30 pm**
- **Dinner - 6:30 pm**
- **Music Bingo - 8 - 9:30 pm**
- **Walk to Fiala Brothers, 127 E, Beaufort Street, Normal, IL**

ILCSWMA 2024 Conference

Agenda for Wednesday, October 30

Breakfast Buffet, 8 am, Redbird D
Sponsor Exhibits - Morning Only

Sustainability, Redbird A, 9 am Leveraging Recycle Coach Statewide

Jeff Galad was appointed President of Recycle Coach in 2023, an innovative technology company that solves for waste and recycling challenges at various levels of government. With over a decade of experience in major market partnerships with large brands, Jeff has taken his passion for collaboration to open new relationships with organizations. While based in Toronto, Jeff is a regular presenter at national and local conferences across the county that focus on sustainability and the environment.

Recycle Coach 101 - Successful Integration into Community Outreach

Michael Brown has served as Executive Director of the Ecology Action Center since November of 2007. He has a diverse background in environmental work including training of volunteers in ecological monitoring for the Illinois EcoWatch, service as a Peace Corps volunteer at Pirin National Park in Bulgaria, management of a 320-acre educational park for the Peoria Park District, work in environmental health with the Peoria City/County Health Department, and restoration of natural areas for Peoria Wilds. He currently serves on the Environment and Climate Justice Committee of the Bloomington Normal Chapter of the NAACP, and is a volunteer with the McLean County Medical Reserve Corps. Michael has received numerous awards for his leadership and service.

Katie Vogler officially joined the EAC team in September of 2022 as the Education Coordinator after serving as their Ecology/Sustainability Staff Intern in 2020. Katie graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in 2022 with a B.S. in Biology. Katie's interests are science communication, clean water programming, and youth education. At the EAC Katie focuses on solid waste and clean water education and outreach, hosts rain barrel, backyard composting, and vermicomposting workshops, and coordinates volunteer activities. She is also an active board member of the Illinois Counties Solid Waste Management Association.

Enforcement, Redbird B, 9 am Landfill Post-Closure Care Release

Dr. Charles Hostetler has 41 years of experience as a project manager and subject matter expert in geochemistry, hydrogeology, risk assessment, environmental regulations and permitting, and natural resources assessment. Dr. Hostetler has served clients in the coal combustion residue (CCR), solid waste, real estate, manufacturing, mining, nuclear waste, and governmental sectors. His core competencies include project management, groundwater modeling, multimedia environmental monitoring, and wetland permitting, construction, and monitoring. Charles has a Ph.D. in Planetary Sciences from the University of Arizona, 1982, and a B.S. in Geology from the University of Arizona, 1978.

Jacki Cooperider, M.B.A., P.E., is the Deputy Bureau Chief at the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency in the Division of Land Pollution Control. As Deputy Bureau Chief, Jacki leads a team of over 110 dedicated staff in the Bureau of Land Permit Section, Materials Management and Compliance Section, and the Field Operations Section. Jacki has worked in the field of environmental engineering and regulation for over 17 years in various roles with increasing responsibility at the IEPA. She is passionate about protecting the environmental health and safety of the citizens and resources of Illinois.

Joshua Rhoades, P.G., is the Permit Section Manager in the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Bureau of Land, Division of Land Pollution Control. Joshua has worked in the Permit Section for over 12 years in various roles, focusing primarily on groundwater compliance issues for Subtitle D facilities.

Plenary Session: The Future of Waste

Coordinated by SWANA's IL Land of Lincoln Chapter

Redbird C - 10:15 am

1. Landfill Capacity

Matthew Loula, Geo-Logic Associates



Matthew is a civil engineer with three years of experience. He performs engineering and regulatory analysis as part of a multi-disciplinary team and prepares permit applications, conceptual designs, and design calculations for solid waste facilities (material recovery facilities, transfer stations, and landfills) utilizing experience in AutoCAD, ArcGIS, and HydroCAD.

2. Rethink Recycling with Hefty ReNew

Catherine Chertudi & Paul Benvenuti, Reynolds Consumer Products



Catherine is with Rivers Edge Environmental Consulting, LLC, and has worked for more than 35 years solving complex water and waste issues in Idaho and across the US. Currently Catherine is working as the local government/community consultant with the Hefty® *ReNew* Program for hard to recycle plastics.



Paul has been with Reynolds Consumer Products for over four years and is currently the Sales Director for the Hefty® *ReNew* Program. He is responsible for the nationwide expansion of this program which is a collaboration between Reynolds Consumer Products and Dow to provide innovative collection and diversion of hard to recycle plastics. To date, the program has diverted over 2700 tons of post-consumer plastics from landfills.

3. Modern MRF's

Jeff Snyder, Rumpke Waste and Recycling



Jeff started his career with Smurfit WestRock in 1991 where he held several positions on the mill and converting side of the business. He joined Smurfit WestRock's recycling division in 2008 where he ran several recycling plants in Indianapolis, In., Chattanooga, Tn., Huntsville, Al., and Columbus, Oh. Jeff oversaw the building of several single-stream MRF's while with the company.

In 2014 Jeff joined Pratt Industries as the Midwest Mill Buyer & Operations Manager. He oversaw the sourcing of 50,000 tons a month of fiber for both Valparaiso, In & Wapakoneta, Oh. Paper mills. He also managed 3 recycling plants and all mill fiber operations.

In 2020 Jeff joined Rumpke as Senior Vice President of Recycling & Sustainability where he oversees the Recycling line of business and 14 recycling plants.

4. Secondary Processing

Mike Centers, Titus



Mike is the founder and President of Titus MRF Services. Titus is an equipment and maintenance service company that supports the existing Material Recovery Facility (MRF) infrastructure. We have developed two patents that protect our glass cleaning solutions and our secondary MRF solution. We have been in business since September 2001.

Titus has over 8 years-experience operating a secondary MRF which we also designed and built a \$6M investment.

5. EPR Laws - Present and Future

Christina Seibert, SWANCC



Christina is the Executive Director for the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC), an intergovernmental agency facilitating waste management operations, programs, and policy for its 23 member municipalities and 800,000 residents in north and northwest Cook County. She has 24 years of experience in the solid waste and recycling arena and is the Vice President of the Illinois Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), chair of the Statewide Recycling Needs Assessment Advisory Council, co-chair of the Illinois Task Force on Recycling Contamination Solutions, chair of the Illinois Electronics Recycling Task Force, and member of the Product Stewardship Institute's Board of Directors.

6. Organics Ban Legislation

Walter Willis, SWALCO



Walter has been the Executive Director of the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County since 2007. He oversees the Agency's solid waste and resource management programs and implements the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan. Mr. Willis is a board member of the Illinois Chapter of SWANA, the past chairman of the Illinois Food Scrap & Composting Coalition and an honorary board member of the Product Stewardship Institute.

Prior to joining SWALCO, Mr. Willis worked as a consultant in the waste industry for approximately 20 years developing solid waste management plans and assisting with solid waste facility development projects throughout the United States. He began his solid waste career with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency in 1987 after receiving his Master's in Public Administration from Southern Illinois University.

SWANA Illinois Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

11:45 am

Closing Comments

Noon

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