

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, May 7th – 5:30 – 7:30pm
MEETING NOTES

SWAC members in attendance:

Amy Maron, Chair	Mark Symborski (M-NCPPC rep, nonvoting)
Robin Barr, Vice Chair	Andrew Cassilly
Kaela Martins, Secretary	Troy Cavell
Chaz Miller	
Barry Shanoff	
Robin Barr	
Fred Kranz	
Peter Mukerjee	
Kavita Battula	
Lauren Greenberger	
Dapo Awe	

SWAC Members absent:

John Meyer
Michelle Ennis
Dawn Selis

DEP Officials in attendance:

Lisa Shine, Executive Administrative Assistant to the RRMD Division Director
David Frank, RRMD, Technical Liaison to SWAC
Alan Pultyniewicz, RRMDDEP
Eileen Kao, RRMD, Chief, Waste Reduction and Recycling Section
Willie Wainer, Division Director, RRMD

Members of the public: None.

AGENDA

Meeting started (approx 5:32)
April 2025 Minutes approved (approx 5:34)

Presentation on the Recycling Awards Program: Eileen Kao, Recycling and Resources Management Division, Department of Environmental Protection (approx. 5:35)

- Montgomery County's DEP hosts an annual ceremony honoring achievements in waste reduction, reuse and recycling.
- Recognizes individuals, multi-family buildings, businesses, and organizations.
- The awards are presented during the County's Recycling Awareness Week, May 19-23, 2025.

- The award ceremony takes place this year on May 20, 2025. The keynote speaker will be the battalion chief of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services who will talk about safe disposal of household batteries.
- During the week, the team conducted 13 events over 5 days including 12 school assemblies. The team interacted with 2,294 students.
- All recycling materials are translated into multiple languages.
- There is also a poster contest for students.
- The new recycling volunteer coordinator is Jessica Pannecola who was promoted from within.
- Some SWAC members are interested in hearing from the award winners about their programs.

RRMD Updates (approx. 6:37)

- Another alternative to the Material Recovery and Biological Treatment (MRBT) is being heavily reviewed by DEP.
- SWAC can expect more information on what that alternative would be in the upcoming weeks.

County FY26 Budget (approx. 6:51)

- Work sessions held by the Council revealed that Council staff were skeptical of the budget increases for the Resource Recovery Facility (RRF) and MRBT
 - Increased costs of the RRF (\$35.5 million) for short-term maintenance and repair work raised questions from the Council, which believe it requires further review
- Council is supportive of the Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Fund budgets.
- Council has not had an opportunity to discuss the pros and cons of various long-term disposal alternatives, and more information is expected from DEP detailing the costs and other impacts of the alternatives.
 - SWAC members are surprised that DEP has not briefed the Council with the same presentations and analysis given at SWAC meetings in March and April 2025.
 - SWAC members suggested that SWAC look for opportunities to get more involved with council members (i.e. invite them to SWAC meetings)

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

ACRONYMS

AD	Anaerobic Digestion
C&D	Construction and Demolition
CC	County Council
CE	County Executive
CNG	Compressed Natural Gas
CPI	Consumer Price Index

DAFIG Dickerson Area Facilities Implementation Group
DEP Department of Environmental Protection
EPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FTE Full Time Employee
FY Fiscal Year
H&E Health and Environment
MDE Maryland Department of the Environment
MC Montgomery County
MES Maryland Environmental Services
MRF Materials Recovery Facility
MML Maryland Municipal League
MCPS Montgomery County Public Schools
MRBT Material Recovery and Biological Treatment
Bpv Net Present Value
OLO Office of Legislative Oversight
PAYT Pay-As-You-Throw
RRF Resource Recovery Facility
RRMD Recycling & Resource Management Division
SA Service Area for County collection
SAYT Save-As-You-Throw
SCA Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SF Single-family
SWAC Solid Waste Advisory Committee
SWMP Solid Waste Management Plan
T&E Transportation and Environment Committee
TPD Tons per Day
TPW Tons per Week
ZWTF Zero Waste Task Force