Each year, millions of dollars in recyclable material goes to landfills around the state. That material – plastics, metals, glass, paper, and more – could be repurposed to save landfill space, help the environment, and create business opportunities. As more focus is placed on improving Michigan’s recycling rate, facility environmental managers are increasingly asked to find alternatives to landfill disposal as part of corporate responsibility programs, or to reduce their facility’s environmental impact. There may also be an opportunity to reuse materials at your facility that might otherwise have been landfilled.

Elizabeth Garver, Recycling Specialist of the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy’s new Materials Management Division, will be available to discuss the Recycled Materials Market Directory and other efforts to help people recycle. She will present an overview of new programs designed to expand recycling and improve material quality in Michigan.

Tom Caswell, Technical Services Director of US Ecology, will discuss his company’s services and how they process materials that come through their company. There will also be time afterward to tour the Belleville site for those that might be interested (please note that safety glasses, a hard hat, and sturdy shoes will be needed for the tour).

Kerrin O’Brien, Executive Director of the Michigan Recycling Coalition, will also provide helpful information on recycling materials including information on recycling websites and how to find places that recycle some of the more unusual and diverse items – including carpet tiles, batteries, and even food waste!