

US EPA Sustainable Materials Management Web Academy Webinar

EPA's Waste Reduction Model (WARM) Version 15

May 9, 2019 12N-1pm CT

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Have you ever wanted to calculate the environmental impact of your organization's waste management practices? Have you considered making a change in how you manage your waste stream but are unsure what the environmental impact may be? Do you have sustainability goals but are unsure how your current waste management plan feeds into the broader goals? These are the types of questions EPA's Waste Reduction Model (WARM) can help you answer.

US EPA Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery coordinates national efforts for hazardous and non-hazardous waste management. The approach to non-hazardous waste management is within the office's Sustainable Materials Management framework where EPA works with stakeholders to limit the environmental impact of material use throughout the life cycle. One important aspect of limiting the environmental impacts is the measurement of those impacts.

WARM has been publicly available since 1998. During that time significant improvements have been made to the tool including the addition of new management practices and material categories. During the webinar EPA will provide some historical background, highlight the release of WARM version 15 and walk through a practical example. Two additions in WARM version 15 are an update of the electronics category (from "personal computers" to multiple electronics categories) and estimates of the economic impact of diverting material from the landfill which draws on EPA's Recycling Economic Information Report and other sources.

After the presentation we look forward to answering stakeholder questions and hearing recommendations for future updates.

For more information about WARM, visit <https://www.epa.gov/warm>.

The Recycling Economic Information Report can be found here: <https://www.epa.gov/smm/recycling-economic-information-rei-report>.

Speaker

Nathan Wittstruck is an economist with the US EPA Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery. Nathan's experience includes promoting sustainable materials management, supporting of the office's international engagement and the management of the Waste Reduction Model (WARM) tool. Nathan has a master's degree in economics from the University of California Riverside.