



Organic Materials Management Rulemaking Chapter 173-350 WAC

Dawn Marie Maurer

June 30, 2025, 1:00 PM (Pacific Time)

Meeting Agenda



1:00 PM

Welcome & meeting logistics



1:10 PM

Draft rule concepts with comment and Q&A



3:00 PM


Wrap up

Note: This meeting is being recorded for the public record.

Assisting with this meeting:

Zoom Meeting

Please use the chat box to ask questions or make comments.



Molly McNutt, Facilitator

Chat

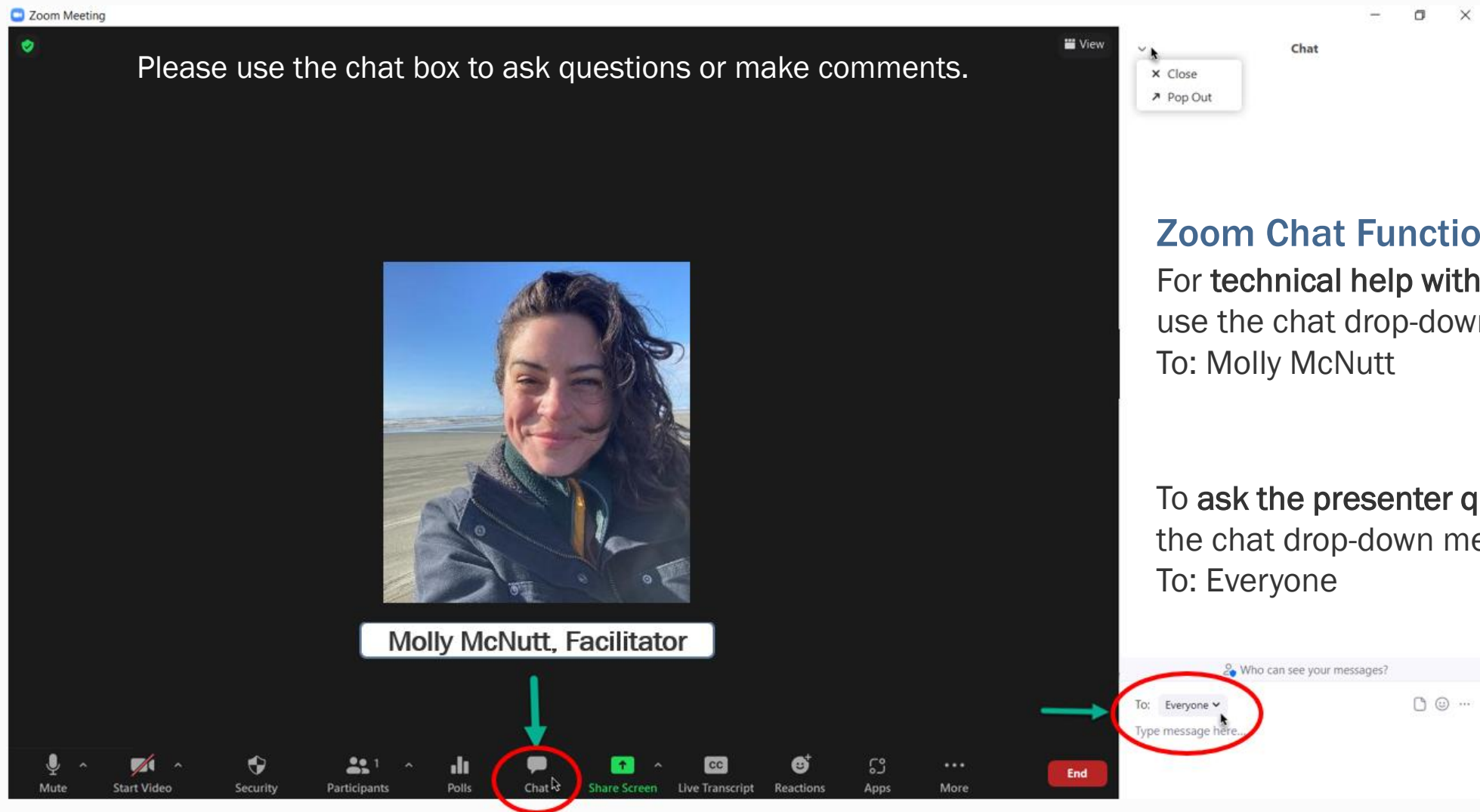
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Who can see your messages?

To: Everyone

Type message here...

Mute Start Video Security Participants Polls Chat Share Screen Live Transcript Reactions Apps More End

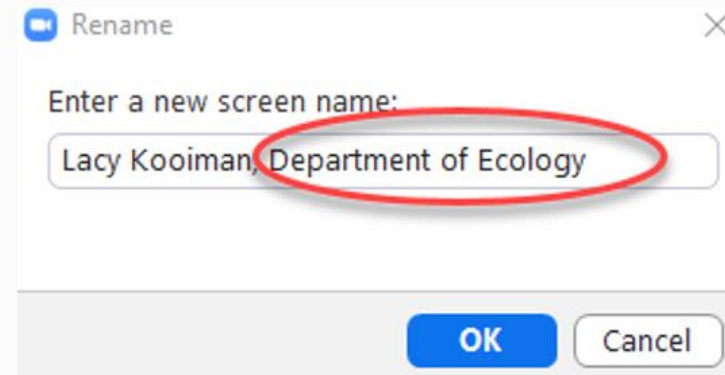
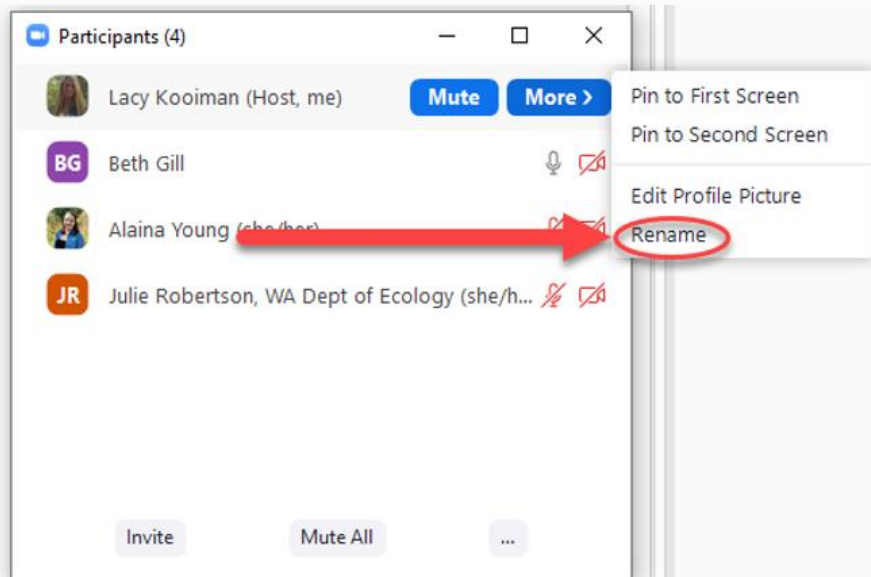
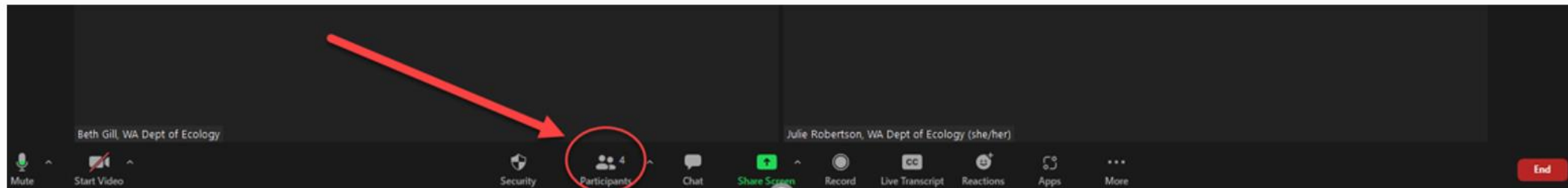


Zoom Chat Functions

For technical help with Zoom, use the chat drop-down menu to select To: Molly McNutt

To ask the presenter questions, use the chat drop-down menu to select To: Everyone

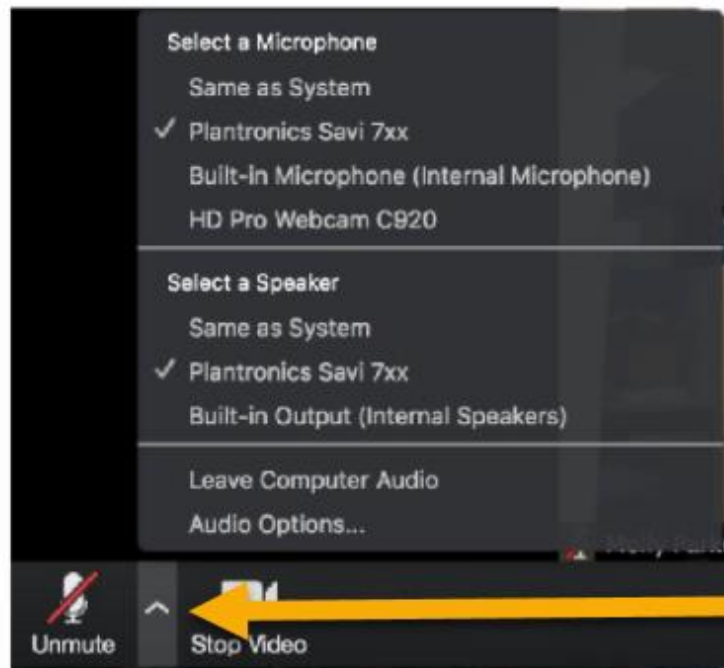
Zoom Functions: Rename to Add Your Affiliation



Zoom Functions: Audio Settings

Mute/Unmute & Audio Settings

You can mute and unmute your microphone. If you click on the arrow next to the mute button (bottom left main Zoom screen), you have additional options for audio settings. You can change your microphone, leave the computer audio or access the audio options.

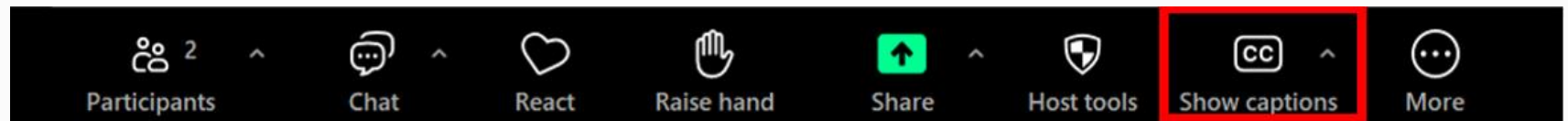


Closed Captions

Closed captions and a live transcript is enabled for this meeting.

To turn on the live transcript:

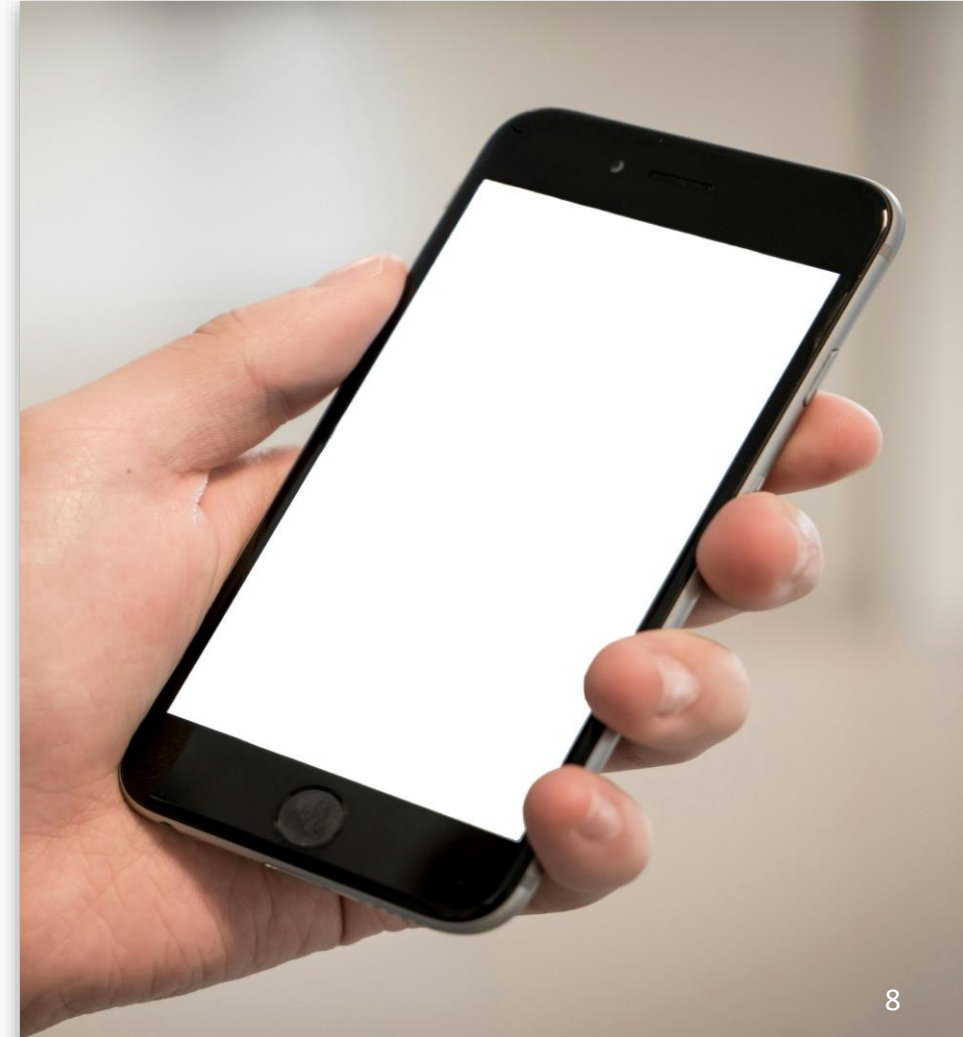
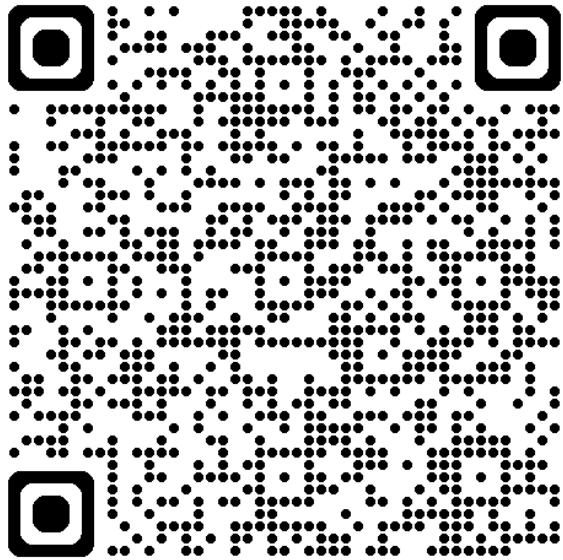
- Locate the cc “Live Transcript” or “Show Captions” option on your Zoom control bar.
- Different versions of Zoom look a little different.



Meeting Purpose

- Rulemaking is for implementing, interpreting, or providing specifics of a statute (RCW) that Ecology administers or enforces.
- The rulemaking process must follow the requirements of Chapter 34.05 RCW, Administrative Procedures Act.
- Ecology is soliciting input on draft rule concepts developed during the Organic Materials Management rulemaking process.

Download the Draft Rule Concepts Document



Two ways to submit comments

Visit our public comment
form webpage



[https://swm.ecology.
commentinput.com?
id=3VmTa6HsZ](https://swm.ecology.commentinput.com?id=3VmTa6HsZ)

Comment today during
the meeting



Written comments receive the same consideration as verbal comments.
Please submit your comments by August 3, 2025, 11:59 PM

Rules for Participating in this Meeting

- Hold your questions and comments until we ask for input. After each section, we will pause for comments and Q&A. Use the “raise hand” function in Zoom if you would like to speak.
- Keep your microphone muted. We will call on you when it is your turn to speak.
- Please ensure your comments are respectful and relevant to scope of the rulemaking. We want to make the most of our limited time today.
- Be concise. We want to make space for everyone to be heard. If you have lengthy questions or comments, we can circle back to you if time allows. You may also provide us written comments to our comment site.



Definitions

- “Organic materials” and “organic materials management”
- “Agricultural waste”
- “Land clearing debris”
- “Yard debris” and “(clean) wood waste”
- Change “wood derived fuel” to “low-grade wood”



Definitions Continued

- “Vermicompost” (change to vermiculture)
- “Worm castings”
- “Slaughter waste”
- “Livestock mortalities”
- “Physical contamination” (expand from applying only to compost)
- “Organic pre-processing”



Compost Exemptions

- Up to 10 cy any feedstocks with no notification or reporting, all materials generated onsite.
- Up to 25 cy, no more than 20% food waste, no notification or reporting, all materials generated onsite.
- Up to 250 cy, 1000 cy/year yard debris, agricultural waste and up to 20% food waste. Must notify and report.
- Up to 250 cy on-farm slaughter waste/mortalities/yard debris/crop residues. Notify and report.
- Unlimited volume on-farm composting of agricultural waste. Must notify and report only if exporting product.

Compost Exemptions Continued

- Unlimited volume for zoos – no primate waste.
- Mass livestock mortalities due to disaster or disease outbreak control when method is approved by USDA and state veterinarian.
- Unchanged – up to 500cy, 2500 cy/year yard debris/manure and bedding; on farm up to 1000cy ag waste/yard debris. Notify and report.



Compost Exemptions Continued

- Operations required to notify must describe measures to:
 - Control leachate
 - Prevent odors and vectors
 - Maintain aerobic compost system with adequate porosity, bulk density, and moisture content that will reach pathogen reduction time/temperature.
- All composters must exclude feedstocks when necessary to comply with restrictions to prevent spread of animal disease such as chronic wasting disease.

Other Organic Material Handling

- 1 tank/vessel capable of holding less than 1000 gallons or 10 cy solids – any system. No notification or reporting.
- Up to 250 cy for vermiculture, black soldier fly production, or other cultivation of beneficial organisms. Must notify and report.
- Up to 5000 gal in tanks. Must notify and report.
- Vermiculture exemption for agricultural wastes and manure. No food processing waste or slaughter waste. Unlimited volume. Must notify and report.
- Create general permitting standards that could cover a variety of systems beyond these restrictions.

Land Application and Piles

- Add physical contaminant limit to Land application. Use the same limit as for other organic materials.
- Add exemption to Piles for yard debris collection sites – up to 30 cy onsite. All material must be removed from the site at least 2x week.



Anaerobic Digesters

- 1 tank/vessel capable of holding less than 1000 gallons. No notification or reporting.
- 1000 gal up to 5000 gal - notification and reporting.
- Dairy digesters provide nutrient data to partner dairies and to the Dept of Agriculture. Apply digestate to land under management of the dairy or comply with the distribution requirements below.
- Change digestate distribution options to passing new “digestate quality standards” (similar to compost standards) or land application under permit or transfer to another facility such as a composter.

Contamination Limits

- Limit incoming contamination at compost facilities, anaerobic digesters, and other organic material handling to 2%.
- Feedstocks may be pre-processed to remove contamination at co-located or offsite locations to meet the 2% standard.
- Limit finished product to 0.5% contamination by dry weight (0.25% total weight for liquid products), and 0.1% film plastic.



Organics Pre-processing

- May be separate location or co-located with composting or other organic facilities.
- Standards will not apply to facilities accepting feedstocks below the 2% limit engaged in normal screening before or after processing.
- Covers any system, including sort lines, depackaging, and other technologies.
- Adopt most requirements from the current MRF regulations.
- Permit required.
- Processed feedstocks must meet 2% contamination limit before transfer to composter or other organic facilities.

Housekeeping & Miscellaneous

- Allow jurisdictional health departments (JHDs) and Ecology to inspect a facility during normal working hours and to collect samples to verify compliance.
- Require use of accredited lab and submittal of raw lab data.
- Require reporting end market destination/use of materials diverted for recycling, including organics.



Housekeeping & Miscellaneous Continued

- Add language that residuals must be managed as MSW.
- Require operation plans in languages employees can read and understand.
- Correct citations that are incorrect such as Table 220A(4)(c)(ii).
- Update all references from RCW 70.95 to 70A.205.

Thank you

Informal Comment Period

June 24 – August 3, 2025, 11:59 PM



Visit the comment site



<https://swm.ecology.commentinput.com?id=3VmTa6HsZ>

Questions

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