



Safety Best Practices at MRFs

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America Recycles Day on November 15 recognizes the importance of recycling. **Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs)** are specialized facilities designed to process and sort dry recyclable materials and are an integral part of the recycling system.

In order to keep workers at MRFs safe and healthy, be aware of potential safety risks and follow the tips below to **guard your safety while working at an MRF**:

- Always wear assigned PPE, making sure it fits properly and is worn correctly, including hearing protection.
- Be aware of fire safety protocols at your facility.
- Always follow lockout/tagout procedures.
- Avoid leaning, stooping over, twisting, or reaching over conveyor belt workstations.
- When necessary, use respiratory protective equipment (RPE) for dust or harmful airborne substances.
- Ensure proper lighting, sturdy handrails, and appropriate floor markings to help avoid slips, trips, and falls that may result in injury.

Prioritizing these safety measures not only protects workers but also supports the facility's mission to process recyclable materials efficiently and responsibly. For more information, the SWANA Managing Recycling Systems course teaches essential skills for planning, developing, marketing, and managing a successful recycling program.

Learn more about the training course here: [Managing Recycling Systems](#).

Sources: [HSE](#)



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