



ABOVE:
Mike Singelyn, Senior Manager Materials and Facilities (second from right), with M.A. Associates employees and screening machine in the background.

Recycling Waste Our New Solution for Scrap Tie Debris Disposal

We generate over two million scrap rail ties every year and send them to power plants, which burn the chips to create electricity (co-generation). However, one of the challenges is that badly deteriorated rail ties break down and often mix with debris, making them unusable for co-generation.

Mike Singelyn, Senior Manager Materials and Facilities, together with Reid Bodley, Manager Waste and Resource Conservation, and Heritage Interactive, CN's waste service provider, collaborated on an innovative solution to reduce waste from rail tie debris at our rail tie disposal hub in L'Anse, Michigan. "We worked with local main vendor M.A. Associates to implement a screening solution to capture wood fragments and send them for co-generation – we expect to reduce waste to landfill by over 1,000 tons this year," says Mike Singelyn.