

Very Small Quantity Generator Collection Programs

Instructions and list of publicly available programs

Very small quantity generators collection programs

Businesses that generate 100 kilograms (kg) (220 pounds or about 22 gallons) or less of hazardous waste each month are known as *Very Small Quantity Generators* (VSQGs). In addition to the hazardous waste disposal options allowed for all generators, VSQGs have another option, called a *VSQG Collection Program*.

VSQG Collection Programs are sites authorized by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) or other states to accept and consolidate hazardous waste from VSQGs before shipping it on for proper disposal. While VSQG Collection Programs charge a disposal fee, and you must usually transport your hazardous waste to the Program yourself, they are often still less expensive than hiring a commercial hazardous waste disposal vendor.

Businesses or other organizations that operate multiple separate VSQG sites may also consider establishing their own private VSQG Collection Program. See MPCA fact sheet #w-hw2-52, Starting a VSQG Collection Program, at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/w-hw2-52.pdf>

How to use a VSQG Collection Program to dispose of your waste

1. Verify that your site is a VSQG. Sites that generate more than 100 kg of hazardous waste in any one month are not VSQGs and may not use VSQG Collection Programs. However, a VSQG may accumulate up to 1,000 kg (2,200 pounds or about 220 gallons) over many months and then dispose of it all at one time. For more information, see MPCA fact sheet #w-hw1-02, Determine generator size, at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/w-hw1-02.pdf>
2. Obtain or verify your site's hazardous waste identification number (HWID, also known as an EPA ID#). You may not take your hazardous waste to a VSQG Collection Program unless your site has a valid HWID.
 - Verify an HWID you believe your site already has using the MPCA's What's in my neighborhood tool at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mPCA/whats-in-my-neighborhood>
 - If your site does not have an HWID, use the MPCA's e-Services to obtain one. Instructions are available in MPCA fact sheet #w-hw5-12 at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/w-hw5-12.pdf>
3. Choose a VSQG Collection Program from the [program list](#) on page 3. In addition to the Minnesota programs listed, a VSQG in Minnesota may also transport their hazardous waste to a VSQG Collection Program in a surrounding state that is authorized by that state to receive out-of-state hazardous waste.
4. Get preapproval and an appointment from the VSQG Collection Program you have selected. Not all programs accept all hazardous wastes. In addition, some programs have per-visit or annual volume limits.
5. Package your hazardous waste to meet the standards of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR). Many VSQG Collection Programs can provide you with assistance meeting the HMR, and you can also find guidance in MPCA fact sheet #w-hw2-53, Requirements for transporting waste to a VSQG Collection Program, at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/w-hw2-53.pdf>
6. Transport only your hazardous waste in your business's vehicle and only to a VSQG Collection Program. Some government-operated VSQG Collection Programs may also offer waste pick-up service. Do not transport anyone else's waste.
7. Get a receipt for your waste, and keep it for at least three years; this is your proof of proper management.

What wastes do most VSQG Collection Programs accept?

Most VSQG Collection Programs can accept many common business hazardous wastes, including paints, solvents, cleaners, wastes containing heavy metals, and universal wastes.

Universal wastes in Minnesota include fluorescent and high intensity discharge (HID) lamps, batteries, mercury devices, aerosols, compressed gas cylinders, and certain pesticides. For more information, see MPCA fact sheet #w-hw4-62, Universal wastes, at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/w-hw4-62.pdf>

What wastes do most VSQG Collection Programs reject?

- **Ammunition and explosives.** Contact your local law enforcement agency or fire department for assistance in handling and properly disposing of ammunition and any suspected explosive wastes.
- **Asbestos.** Contact your county solid waste officer or the MPCA for assistance in managing asbestos wastes. For more information, visit the MPCA's Asbestos in demolition or renovations webpage, at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/asbestos-in-demolition-or-renovations>
- **Electronics.** Electronics that will be recycled may be transported without a manifest to a collection or recycling site. See MPCA fact sheet #w-hw4-15, Managing electronic wastes, at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/w-hw4-15.pdf>
- **Infectious waste (such as bloody waste and sharps).** You may transport your infectious waste to any Certified Infectious Waste Facility or hire a Registered Infectious Waste Transporter to pick it up from your site. See MPCA fact sheet #w-sw4-34, Infectious waste: Approved waste management vendors and systems in Minnesota, at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/w-sw4-34.pdf>
- **Pharmaceutical wastes.** Pharmaceutical wastes may have complex disposal requirements. See MPCA fact sheet #w-hw3-35, Regulatory consensus on health care waste issues, at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/w-hw3-35.pdf>
- **Radioactive wastes.** Contact the Radiation Control Section at the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) for assistance in identifying and properly disposing of potentially radioactive wastes.
- **Used oil.** You may transport up to 55 gallons of used oil to any other business as long as the receiving business will not burn the used oil without testing it first. You may also ship your used oil with a used oil transporter. See MPCA fact sheet #w-hw4-30, Used oil and related wastes, at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/w-hw4-30.pdf>

More information

Guidance and requirements in this fact sheet were compiled from Minnesota Rules, Chapter 7045, and incorporate regulatory interpretation decisions made by the MPCA on December 1, 2014.

For general information on hazardous waste identification and management, see MPCA fact sheet #w-hw1-00, Summary of hazardous waste requirements, at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/w-hw1-00.pdf>

The MPCA's Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) offers free, confidential regulatory compliance assistance. The Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) can help reduce your waste.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Toll free (all offices) 800-657-3864

All offices 651-296-6300

<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/>

Small Business Environmental Assistance Program

Toll free 800-657-3938

Metro 651-282-6143

<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/>

Minnesota Department of Health, Radiation Control

Statewide 651-201-4400

health.ram@state.mn.us

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/>

Minnesota Technical Assistance Program

Toll free 800-247-0015

Metro 612-624-1300

<http://www.mntap.umn.edu>

Available Minnesota VSQG Collection Programs
You must contact a program first to get preapproval for your waste.

Location & Operator	Contact	Counties served
Egan Dakota County	Rolland Meillier 952-891-7545 rolland.meillier@co.dakota.mn.us	Statewide
Jordan Scott County	Richard Jones 952-496-8366 rjones@co.scott.mn.us	Statewide
Minneapolis University of Minnesota	Chemical Safety Day Program (CSDP) Kristofer Weaver 612-626-1553 kweaver@umn.edu	Statewide <i>*Not a VSQG Collection Program, however provides similar services to schools and non-profit organizations.</i>
Bagley NW MN HHW Management	Randy Bodensteiner 218-694-2090 rhb@gvtel.com	Beltrami, Cass, Clearwater, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, Roseau
Chaska Carver County	Matthew Nelson 952-361-1803 mtnelson@co.carver.mn.us	Carver
Detroit Lakes Becker County	Todd Kunkel 218-846-7310 todd.kunkel@co.becker.mn.us	Becker, Clay, Hubbard, Mahnomen, Norman
Duluth Resource Renew	Clean Shop 218-726-1602 clean.shop@resourcerenew.com	Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis
Dundas Rice County	Paul Pieper 507-332-6833 paul.pieper@ricecountymn.gov	Rice, Steele, Waseca
Forest Lake Washington County	VSQG Program 651-275-7475 environmentalcenter@washingtontcountymn.gov	Washington
Hutchinson McLeod County	Sarah Young 320-484-4319 sarah.young@mcleodcountymn.gov	Carver, McLeod, Meeker, Renville, Sibley, Wright
Mankato Blue Earth County	Molly Kjellesvig 507-340-1938 molly.kjellesvig@blueearthcountymn.gov	Blue Earth, Brown, Le Sueur, Nicollet, Watonwan
Marshall Lyon County	Darron Grahn 507-532-8211 darrongrahn@co.lyon.mn.us	Cottonwood, Jackson, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rock, Yellow Medicine
Rochester Olmsted County	David Vail 507-328-7078 david.vail@olmstedcounty.gov	Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Steele, Wabasha, Waseca, Winona
Roseville Ramsey County	Kaylee Long 651-266-0202 vsqg@ramseycounty.us	Ramsey
Truman Prairieland Solid Waste Management	Andy Geiger 507-776-3232 andy@prlandswm.com	Faribault, Martin
Waite Park Stearns County	Michael Rogers 320-257-8607 michael.rogers@stearnscountymn.gov	Benton, Douglas, Mille Lacs, Pope, Sherburne, Stearns
Willmar Kandiyohi County	Derek Amundson 320 231-3587 derek.amundson@kcmn.us	Big Stone, Chippewa, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Meeker, Renville, Swift
Winona Winona County	Kim Nelson 507-457-6462 knelson@winonacounty.gov	Fillmore, Houston, Winona
Woodbury Washington County	VSQG Program 651-275-7475 environmentalcenter@washingtontcountymn.gov	Washington