

Typical contaminants based on site use and processes

A site's current and historical use of chemicals of potential concern (COPCs) and the proximity to other off-site COPC sources should be evaluated to scope site investigation activities and aid in preparation of work plans and sampling and analysis plans. Examples of common site uses and related categories of COPCs are provided in the table below. Note that site use and processes include all activities that occurred at the site and could include everything from known industrial site classifications (e.g., site classifications under NAICS/SIC) to one-off site activities/releases. The table is not intended to be all inclusive, and it may not be relevant for every site. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) also maintains a list of [Typical Wastes Generated by Industry Sectors](#) which is another excellent source for identifying COPCs.

Site use and processes	VOCs	SVOCs	PAHs	GRO, DRO, Fuel Oil, TPH	Pesticides	Metals and metalloids	Cyanide	PCBs	PCP	PFAS	Selenium/Molybdenum	Explosives/Propellant	Dioxin/Furans	Asbestos/ACM	Corrosives/pH	Nitrates and Perchlorate
Agricultural	Please contact the Minnesota Department of Agriculture															
Adhesives	x	x	x			x				x						
Ash and slag disposal			x			x				x			x			
Asphalt plant, disposal			x					x								
Autobody shop	x	x	x	x		x				x						
Aviation and aerospace manufacturing	x	x		x		x				x					x	
Battery recycling and disposal						x				x					x	
Cement plants	x		x			x		x		x				x	x	
Ceramics works						x							x	x		
Chemical and dye manufacturing/recycling	x	x				x		x		x						

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Chlor-Alkali manufacturing	x	x				x									x	
Coal Burning			x			x	x				x		x			
Cosmetics and personal care product manufacturing	x					x				x						
Demolition debris	x		x	x				x		x				x		
Drum recycling	x	x		x		x										
Dry cleaning	x			x						x						
Electronics	x					x				x						
Firefighting locations or firefighting chemical storage	x	x	x			x				x			x			
Food processing	x			x						x						
Foundries	x		x	x		x		x								
Gasoline stations	x	x	x	x		x										
Glass manufacturing	x					x										
Grain storage	Please contact the Minnesota Department of Agriculture															
Hospitals	x	x				x				x						
Incinerators		x				x							x			
Injection molding	x		x	x		x				x						
Inorganic chemical manufacturing						x	x								x	
Inorganic organic pigments	x					x		x								
Land spreading	x	x	x	x	x	x				x						
Landfills and uncontrolled dumps	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x			x	x		
Leather manufacturing				x		x				x						

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Machine shops and metal fabrication	x	x		x		x		x		x						
Manufactured gas plants and coal gasification	x	x	x	x		x	x				x		x			
Marine maintenance	x			x		x				x						
Metal plating and finishing	x	x		x		x	x			x					x	
Metal ore, mining, and smelting operations	x					x				x			x	x	x	
Metal recycling/Scrap yards and automobile salvage	x	x	x	x		x		x		x			x	x		
Mining	x			x		x				x					x	
Ordnance/Explosives storage, manufacturing, and open burn/open detonation	x					x				x		x	x			x
Painting and automobile body repair	x			x		x				x						
Paint, ink formulation	x					x		x		x						
Pesticide manufacturing and use	Please contact the Minnesota Department of Agriculture															
Petroleum refining and reuse	x	x	x	x		x				x						
Pharmaceutical manufacturing	x					x				x						
Photographic film manufacturing and development	x	x				x				x					x	
Pipe yard	x			x		x										
Plastic manufacturing	x	x				x				x						
Printing and ink manufacturing	x			x		x				x						
Railroad yards	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x			x	x		
Research and educational institutions	x	x				x				x						
Rubber manufacturing	x		x			x				x						

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Photolithography/Semiconductor and circuit board production	x					x				x						
Septic release sites	x	x	x	x		x	x			x						
Shooting ranges			x			x										
Tank farms	x	x	x	x		x				x						
Tannery	x					x				x						
Tar disposal			x	x				x						x		
Transformer refurbishing				x				x								
Underground storage tanks	x		x	x		x		x								
Urban fill	x	x	x	x		x				x			x	x		
Vehicle maintenance	x	x	x	x		x		x		x						
Waste oil	x	x	x	x		x		x								
Wood preservation/Treatment* *Please contact the Minnesota Department of Agriculture	x	x	x			x			x							
Wood pulp and paper manufacturing (paper, sanitary tissue, cardboard)	x	x								x		x	x		x	
Wood product manufacturing (lumber, plywood)	x	x	x							x						