



Protect groundwater from landfilled demolition materials

What's the issue?

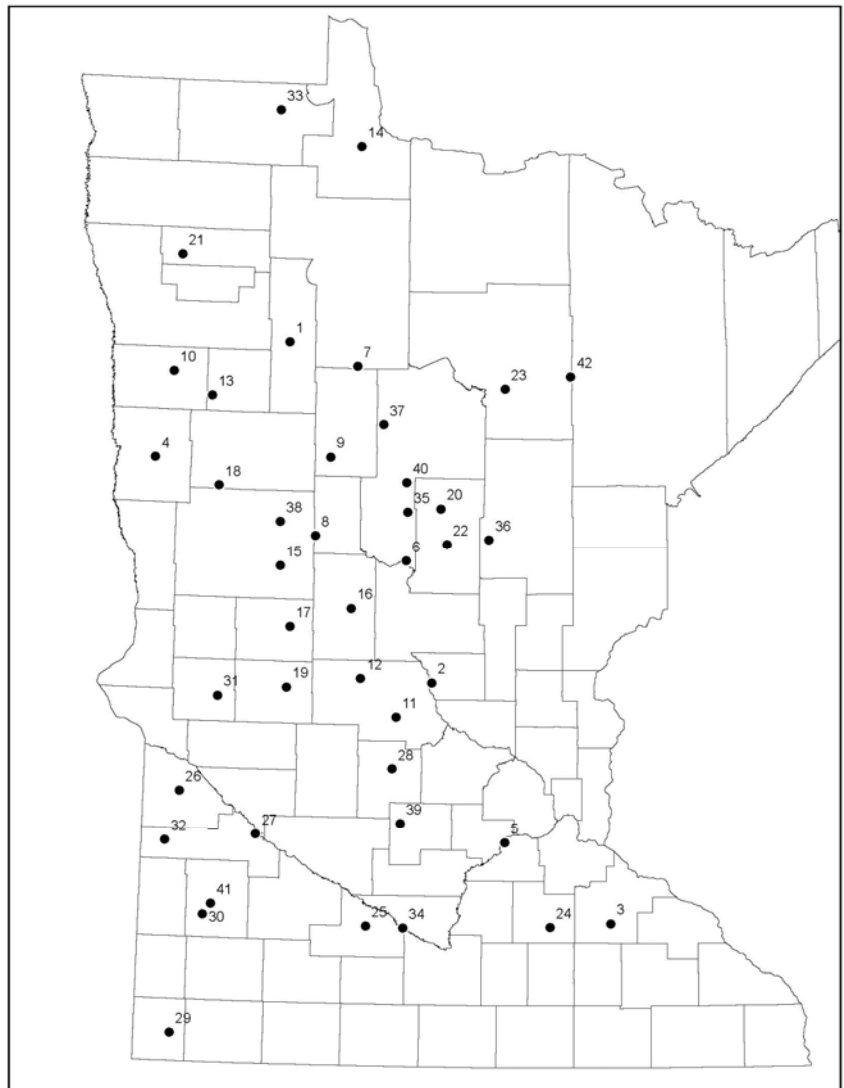
Eighty-eight Minnesota landfills that accept construction and demolition (C&D) debris were constructed without linings, because lining wasn't required at the time; it was thought that brick, wood, and metal materials didn't pose a groundwater threat. In reality, moisture and stormwater that percolates through debris (leachate) in unlined landfills can seep into the surrounding soil. Construction materials now include more chemicals, adhesives, and plastics, which behave differently in landfills than bricks and wood. Leachate brings pollutants from the landfilled material into the soil and can contaminate groundwater. In landfills constructed to the latest standards, lining and leachate collection protects land and water near the facility.

Why is it important?

Groundwater monitoring shows that unlined demolition landfills are contaminating groundwater. Of the 88 unlined C&D landfills:

- 67 have groundwater monitoring
- 42 (63%) of those show groundwater contamination that exceeds state and federal standards (see map at right)
- Only four monitored sites have shown no contamination at all
- Monitoring continues at 19 landfills, where contamination may be present

In addition, a large volume of demolition debris that could be reused ends up in these landfills. Some of it could be diverted for other uses. Not only does diverting demolition debris slow the filling of landfills, it conserves the resources required to make new material.



42 construction and demolition landfills in Minnesota have caused groundwater contamination at levels exceeding state and federal standards. See second page for facility names and locations.

C&D landfills showing contamination that exceeds standards (see map)

Proposal

MPCA grants and loans would:

- **Establish or expand programs that facilitate reuse and recycling of demolition materials** — For example, demolished concrete can be crushed and used as a road base. Or architectural elements and fixtures can be reused for new construction.
- **Enhance the cover/cap for landfills that close** — Ensure that closed C&D landfills are properly sealed to contain pollutants.
- **Convert some C&D landfills to C&D transfer stations** — Help communities to both deliver C&D disposal service *and* cap landfills to prevent further pollution, by converting facilities to transfer stations. The waste would be transported to a lined landfill
- **Investigate the extent of groundwater contamination** — Monitor groundwater to protect drinking water wells and gauge the area affected by contaminants.
- **Install liners and leachate collection systems for new or expanded landfill cells**

	Facility name	City	County
1	Clearwater County Demolition Debris Land Disposal	Bagley	Clearwater
2	Henkemeyer Demolition Landfill	Sauk Rapids	Benton
3	Wanamingo Demolition Landfill	Zumbrota	Goodhue
4	Clay Demolition Landfill	Glyndon	Clay
5	Dem-Con Landfill LLC	Shakopee	Scott
6	Hengel Ready Mix & Construction Inc.	Pillager	Cass
7	Beltrami County Demolition Landfill	Bemidji	Beltrami
8	Wadena County Solid Waste Facility	Wadena	Wadena
9	Hubbard Co So Transfer & Demo Landfill	Park Rapids	Hubbard
10	Norman County Demolition Landfill	Gary	Norman
11	TK Demolition Disposal LLC	Cold Spring	Stearns
12	Bueckers City Sanitation Services	Sauk Centre	Stearns
13	Mahnomen County Demolition Landfill	Mahnomen	Mahnomen
14	Lake of the Woods Recovery Facility	Baudette	Lake of the Woods
15	Henning Transfer Station/Demo Landfill	Henning	Otter Tail
16	Todd County Demolition Landfill	Browerville	Todd
17	Alex Rubbish & Recycling Inc.	Alexandria	Douglas
18	Lakes Area Demolition Landfill	Detroit Lakes	Becker
19	Glenwood Demolition Disposal LLC	Glenwood	Pope
20	Crosslake Construction Demolition Debris	Crosslake	Crow Wing
21	Omega Demolition Landfill	Thief River Falls	Pennington
22	Crow Wing County Demo Debris Landfill	Brainerd	Crow Wing
23	Itasca Co Demo Landfill/MSW Transfer	Grand Rapids	Itasca
24	BH Heselton Demolition Landfill	Faribault	Rice
25	Hoffman Demolition Landfill	New Ulm	Brown
26	Lac Qui Parle County Demolition Landfill	Madison	Lac Qui Parle
27	Minnesota Fall Demolition Landfill	Granite Falls	Yellow Medicine
28	Meeker County Demolition Landfill	Litchfield	Meeker
29	Rock County Demo	Luverne	Rock
30	Lyon County Demolition Landfill	Russell	Lyon
31	Stevens County Facility	Morris	Stevens
32	Canby Demolition Debris Landfill	Canby	Yellow Medicine
33	Roseau Co SW Transfer Facility/Demolition Landfill	Salol	Roseau
34	Valley Demo & Recycling LLC	New Ulm	Nicollet
35	Hengel's Westside Demolition Landfill	Pequot Lakes	Cass
36	Oak Ridge Demolition Landfill	Aitkin	Aitkin
37	Hoss Demolition Landfill	Walker	Cass
38	NE Otter Tail Phase II Ash & Demo	New York Mills	Otter Tail
39	Waste Management Demolition Landfill	Hutchinson	McLeod
40	Grinning Bear Demolition Landfill	Backus	Cass
41	D & G Excavating Inc.	Marshall	Lyon
42	General Waste & Recycling LLC	Keewatin	Itasca

Funding request

\$1,000,000 in the base per fiscal year, including funding for one FTE to administer grants.

For more information

Greta Gauthier, Legislative Director, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

greta.gauthier@state.mn.us

Office: 651-757-2031 • Mobile: 651-338-8955