

Minnesota's Drycleaner Fund

The Drycleaner Fund is available to help pay for the cleanup of soil, groundwater, and soil vapor contamination at dry cleaning facilities.

Who is eligible?

- Current or former operators of drycleaners.
- Property owners that leased to drycleaners during the time the dry cleaning facility operated (lessors).

What expenses are reimbursable?

- Investigation and cleanup costs, if a cleanup is required by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).
- Contamination resulting from on-site dry cleaning activity.
- Costs determined to be reasonable by MPCA staff.
- Amounts over the deductible of \$10,000.

What expenses are not eligible?

- Consultant markup charges.
- Investigation or cleanup related to contamination not associated with a dry cleaning operation.
- Site improvements.
- Costs for work done solely to facilitate a property transfer or refinance, or associated with a change in property use.
- Repair, replacement or upgrade of a facility or equipment.
- Reports not submitted or required by the MPCA.
- Costs associated with the preparation of MPCA applications.
- Hourly environmental consulting rates that exceed the maximum allowed.
- Hourly rates for consulting services when the rate charged is higher than the level of services required to perform the task.
- Hours exceeding those actually or reasonably spent performing the service.
- Costs resulting from illegal actions.
- Third-party review of environmental work.
- Legal fees, late fees, service fees, or interest costs.
- Costs reimbursed by insurance.

What else do I need to know?

- A cleanup plan must be approved by the MPCA staff prior to conducting the cleanup work.
- The drycleaner must have provided services to the general public (i.e. uniform, linen-supply, and coin-operated facilities are not eligible).
- No single dry cleaning facility may receive more than \$100,000 in a given fiscal year. Eligible reimbursable amounts above \$100,000 are eligible for the remainder in subsequent years.
- Sites where the responsible party refuses to conduct required cleanup will be assessed by the MPCA and may be listed on the state superfund list. The MPCA will then take actions if necessary and will seek cost recovery to the extent allowed by law.
- Additional information regarding reimbursement eligibility can be found in State Statutes [Ch. 115B MN Statutes](#) and State Rules [7152.0100 - MN Rules Part](#).

How long will it take to get my money?

- It depends on which category you fall into (operator or lessor). The 2021 legislature prioritized reimbursement of operators ahead of reimbursement of lessors. That means that rather than a first-come, first-served waiting list, operators are now put at the top of the waiting list and are reimbursed more quickly than lessors.
- If you are an operator, reimbursement is currently estimated at 1 to 6 months.
- If you are a lessor, reimbursement may take 2 to 3 years, or more.
- If requests for reimbursement continue to outpace fees coming into the Fund, wait times for reimbursement will increase.

Whom do I contact if I have questions?

More information about the Drycleaner Fund, including the reimbursement application, is available on the MPCA's website at: [Funding for contaminated sites resources | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency \(state.mn.us\)](#)

Can I get money anywhere else?

Additional financial assistance may be available from the Small Business Assistance Program at: [Small business environmental improvement loans | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency \(state.mn.us\)](#).