

Hazardous waste accumulation extensions

This fact sheet will discuss how to request an extension to the standard hazardous waste accumulation limits administered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and the Metropolitan Counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington (Metro Counties). For more information about hazardous waste accumulation, see MPCA fact sheet #w-hw1-05, Accumulate hazardous waste, at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/w-hw1-05.pdf>.

What are the standard hazardous waste accumulation limits?

The standard hazardous waste accumulation limits are determined by your site's regulated hazardous waste generator size. See MPCA fact sheet #w-hw1-02, Determine generator size, at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/w-hw1-02.pdf>.

Hazardous waste accumulation volume and time limits

| If your site's generator size is: | You may accumulate up to: | For up to: |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG) | 2,200 pounds | Indefinitely, until the accumulation exceeds 2,200 pounds; then for another 180 days*. |
| Small Quantity Generator (SQG) | 6,600 pounds | 180 days from the accumulation start date*. |
| Large Quantity Generator (LQG) | Any amount | 90 days from the accumulation start date. |

*VSQGs, and SQGs may accumulate hazardous waste for an additional 90 days (for a total of 270 days) if the initial designated facility to which the waste will be shipped is located more than 200 road miles from the generation site.

Note: The MPCA and some Metro Counties recognize a subset of VSQGs called Minimal Quantity Generators (MiniQGs). MiniQGs in Metro Counties may have lower accumulation limits. Contact your Metro County for more information.

How do I request an extension to these limits?

If circumstances beyond your control will prevent you from shipping your hazardous waste off-site within the volume or time limits, you may request a 30-day extension from the MPCA or your Metro County.

Submit your request before you exceed your limits.

Contact your Metro County to find out where to send requests. See [More information](#) on page 2.

For sites in outstate Minnesota, send requests to the MPCA at: hw-licensing.pca@state.mn.us.

Your written request must include the:

- Site's Hazardous Waste Identification Number (HWID), name, and address, including county.
- Contact person name, telephone, and email address. Though a consultant may submit requests on behalf of a site or number of sites, contact information for each site must be included.
- Specific type and amount of waste you are requesting the extension for.
- Date when the waste would exceed its accumulation limits without an extension.
- Specific reason the extension is needed, with attached documentation. The documentation must be specific to the waste; a general description of circumstances affecting an industry or region is insufficient and will result in denial of an extension. Examples of sufficient documentation may include: correspondence to your site from your current hazardous waste disposal vendor notifying you of a canceled or delayed pickup, evidence of an unexpected incident at your site, or similar records.

For the period from August 2021 through March 2022, unless extended or reduced by the MPCA in a revision of this fact sheet, sites **should not** attempt to switch disposal vendors solely to get faster waste pickup, and will not be required to submit documentation of any attempts to contact or switch to other vendors.

What must I do after receiving an extension?

If your site receives an accumulation extension, you must:

- Make every effort to meet the extended accumulation limit. While you may request additional extensions, you must describe specific reasons why you need every addition, such as new correspondence from your waste disposal vendor or other changed circumstances.
- Accumulate your waste in compliance with container, accumulation area, emergency preparedness, and employee training requirements. For more information on these requirements, see the '10 steps to compliance' section at the top of the MPCA Hazardous waste documents and forms webpage at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/hazardous-waste-documents-and-forms>.

Are there different extensions for different size generators?

No extensions are needed for VSQGs that do not have more than 2,200 pounds of hazardous waste on-site. Since VSQGs have at least 180 days after they exceed that limit to ship their waste, the MPCA believes that to be sufficient time to meet the standard accumulation limits without extensions. Therefore, the MPCA approves extensions for VSQGs only under extremely rare circumstances.

SQGs accumulating hazardous waste under an approved extension may exceed their maximum on-site accumulation volume limit during the extended time limit.

More information

Guidance and requirements in this fact sheet were compiled from Minnesota Rules, Chapter 7045, and include regulatory decisions made by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on August 10, 2021; and by the MPCA on August 12, 2021. To review Minnesota Rules, visit the Office of the Revisor of Statutes at: <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/pubs>.

For information about waste minimization, which can reduce or eliminate your need for an accumulation extension, contact the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP). The MPCA's Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) can offer free, confidential compliance assistance. Immediately report all hazardous waste spills that reach the environment to the Minnesota Duty Officer.

Metro County Hazardous Waste Offices

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| Anoka | 763-324-4260 |
| | https://www.anokacounty.us/ |
| Carver | 952-361-1800 |
| | https://www.co.carver.mn.us/ |
| Dakota | 952-891-7557 |
| | https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/ |
| Hennepin | 612-348-3777 |
| | https://www.hennepin.us/ |
| Ramsey | 651-266-1199 |
| | https://www.ramseycounty.us/ |
| Scott | 952-496-8177 |
| | https://www.scottcountymn.gov/ |
| Washington | 651-430-6655 |
| | https://www.co.washington.mn.us/ |

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

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| Toll free (all offices) | 1-800-657-3864 |
| All offices | 651-296-6300 |
| | https://www.pca.state.mn.us/ |

Minnesota Duty Officer

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| Toll free | 1-800-422-0798 |
| Metro | 651-649-5451 |

Small Business Environmental Assistance Program

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| Toll free | 1-800-657-3938 |
| Metro | 651-282-6143 |
| | https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sbeap/ |

Minnesota Technical Assistance Program

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| Toll free | 1-800-247-0015 |
| Metro | 612-624-1300 |
| | http://www.mntap.umn.edu |