

# Very Small Quantity Generator Collection Programs

## Instructions and list of available hazardous waste collection programs

### Very small quantity generators of hazardous waste

Businesses that generate 100 kilograms (kg) (220 pounds or about 22 gallons) or less of hazardous waste per month are known as Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQGs). VSQGs have a hazardous waste disposal option available to them in addition to those allowed for all generators, 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 for proper disposal. While VSQG Collection Programs charge a disposal fee, and you must usually transport your hazardous waste to the program's facility yourself, they are still often less expensive than hiring a commercial disposal vendor to pick up hazardous waste at your site.

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

1. Verify that your business site is a VSQG. Business sites that generate more than 100 kg of hazardous waste in a month are not VSQGs and may not use VSQG Collection Programs. VSQGs may, however, accumulate up to 1000 kg over many months and dispose of it all at one time and still remain VSQGs and eligible to use VSQG Collection Programs. For more information about 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>.
2. Obtain or verify your site's hazardous waste identification number (HWID). You may not take your hazardous waste to any VSQG Collection Program unless your site has a valid HWID.
  - If your site does not have an HWID, you must use the MPCA's e-Services Notification of regulated waste activity to obtain one. Instructions for the e-Services Notification are available in MPCA fact sheet #w-hw5-12 at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/w-hw5-12.pdf>.
  - If you believe your site may already have an HWID, verify that it is valid for your business using the MPCA's Hazardous waste generator report search tool at <https://webapp.pca.state.mn.us/hwrs/search>.
3. Choose a VSQG Collection Program from the [program list](#) on page 3. In addition to the 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. Contact and get preapproval from the VSQG Collection Program you have selected. Programs will not accept waste without preapproval and an appointment for each shipment. Not all programs accept all 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) and your chosen VSQG Collection Program. Find detailed guidance on the HMR requirements in MPCA fact sheet #w-hw2-53, Requirements for Transporting waste to a very small quantity generator collection program, at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/w-hw2-53.pdf>. Many programs can provide you packaging guidance, or may have their own extra packaging requirements.
6. Transport only your own hazardous waste in your business's vehicle. Some government-operated VSQG Collection Programs may also offer waste pick-up service. Do not transport another business's waste.
7. Get a receipt. Keep the receipt you get from the VSQG Collection Program for at least three years.

## 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-containing devices; aerosols and compressed gas cylinders; and pesticides accepted by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Waste Pesticide Collection Program. For more information, see MPCA fact sheet #w-hw4-62, Managing 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 MPCA solid waste staff for assistance in identifying and properly disposing of asbestos wastes. For more information, see MPCA webpage Asbestos in demolition or renovations, at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/asbestos-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 (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)..... 1-800-657-3864  
All offices ..... 651-296-6300  
Website ..... <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/>

### Minnesota Department of Health, Radiation Control

Statewide..... 651-201-4400  
Email..... [health.ram@state.mn.us](mailto:health.ram@state.mn.us)  
Website ..... <https://www.health.state.mn.us/>

### Small Business Environmental Assistance Program

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

### Minnesota Technical Assistance Program

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

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

<b>Location</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Counties served</b>
<b>Egan</b> Dakota County	Rolland Meillier 952-891-7545 <a href="mailto:rolland.meillier@co.dakota.mn.us">rolland.meillier@co.dakota.mn.us</a>	Statewide
<b>Minneapolis</b> University of Minnesota	Chemical Safety Day 612-590-5224 <a href="mailto:shuff001@umn.edu">shuff001@umn.edu</a>	Statewide <i>*Though not a VSQG Collection Program, CSD provides similar services to schools and non-profit organizations.</i>
<b>Bagley</b> Northwest MN HHW Management	Randy Bodensteiner 218-694-2090 <a href="mailto:rhb@gvtel.com">rhb@gvtel.com</a>	Beltrami, Cass, Clearwater, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, Roseau
<b>Chaska</b> Carver County	Dustin Heidinger 952-361-1836 <a href="mailto:dheidinger@co.carver.mn.us">dheidinger@co.carver.mn.us</a>	Carver
<b>Detroit Lakes</b> Becker County	Sandy Gunderson 218-846-7200 <a href="mailto:sandy.gunderson@co.becker.mn.us">sandy.gunderson@co.becker.mn.us</a>	Becker, Clay, Hubbard, Mahnomon, Norman
<b>Duluth</b> Western Lake Superior Sanitary District	Clean Shop 218-726-1602 <a href="mailto:Clean.Shop@wlssd.duluth.mn.us">Clean.Shop@wlssd.duluth.mn.us</a>	Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis
<b>Dundas</b> Rice County	Paul Pieper 507-332-6833 <a href="mailto:ppieper@co.rice.mn.us">ppieper@co.rice.mn.us</a>	Rice, Steele, Waseca
<b>Hutchinson</b> McLeod County	Sarah Young 320-484-4319 <a href="mailto:sarah.young@co.mcleod.mn.us">sarah.young@co.mcleod.mn.us</a>	Carver, McLeod, Meeker, Renville, Sibley, Wright
<b>Jordan</b> Scott County	Richard Jones 952-496-8366 <a href="mailto:rjones@co.scott.mn.us">rjones@co.scott.mn.us</a>	Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Le Sueur, Rice, Scott, Sibley
<b>Mankato</b> Blue Earth County	Ken Frederick 507-304-4381 <a href="mailto:Ken.Frederick@blueearthcountymn.gov">Ken.Frederick@blueearthcountymn.gov</a>	Blue Earth, Brown, Le Sueur, Nicollet, Sibley, Watonwan
<b>Marshall</b> Lyon County	Darron Grahn 507-532-8210 <a href="mailto:darrongrahn@co.lyon.mn.us">darrongrahn@co.lyon.mn.us</a>	Cottonwood, Jackson, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Rock, Yellow Medicine
<b>Rochester</b> Olmsted County	David Vail 507-328-7070 <a href="mailto:pwservice@co.olmsted.mn.us">pwservice@co.olmsted.mn.us</a>	Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Steele, Wabasha, Waseca, Winona
<b>St. Paul</b> Ramsey County	Kelly Giglio 651-291-3451 <a href="mailto:VSQG@baywest.com">VSQG@baywest.com</a>	Ramsey
<b>Truman</b> Praeland Solid Waste Management	Billeye Rabbe 507-776-3232 <a href="mailto:billeve@prlandswm.com">billeve@prlandswm.com</a>	Faribault, Martin
<b>Waite Park</b> Stearns County	Ryan Thompson 320-656-3613 <a href="mailto:ryan.thompson@co.stearns.mn.us">ryan.thompson@co.stearns.mn.us</a>	Benton, Douglas, Mille Lacs, Pope, Sherburne, Stearns
<b>Willmar</b> Kandiyohi County	Jay Baker 320 231-3587 <a href="mailto:jay.baker@kcmn.us">jay.baker@kcmn.us</a>	Big Stone, Chippewa, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Meeker, Renville, Swift
<b>Winona</b> Winona County	Kim Nelson 507-457-6462 <a href="mailto:knelson@co.winona.mn.us">knelson@co.winona.mn.us</a>	Fillmore, Houston, Winona
<b>Woodbury</b> Washington County	Adam Frederick 651-497-8433 <a href="mailto:adam.frederick@co.washington.mn.us">adam.frederick@co.washington.mn.us</a>	Washington