

MPCA SOLID WASTE UPDATES

Financial Assistance

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE (EA) GRANTS (MPCA CONTACT: JEANNIE GIVEN)

- Greater Minnesota recycling and composting Request for Proposals (RFP) is anticipated to open for applications in March 2020. This RFP will be for \$1M and will have a minimum grant award requirement higher than past grant rounds. There will be another RFP funding opportunity under this program in fall of 2020.
- Current funding opportunity is available under the EA program for climate adaptation projects. The MPCA invites eligible applicants to submit applications to research, develop, and implement strategies for communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change and improve community resilience while achieving positive environmental outcomes. These efforts will prevent or reduce the environmental impacts including waste and pollution caused by warming temperatures and extreme precipitation while protecting public health and well-being. Examples of fundable projects are located on the EA program page: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mpca/grants-community-strategies-adapt-climate-change>.
- Need help or have questions navigating the EA Grant Program? Do you understand MPCA's application expectations, including areas of concern for environmental justice? Are you receiving grant funding opportunity notifications or want to make suggestions for environmental needs within the state? Reach out to Jeannie Given at jeannie.given@state.mn.us or 651-757-2459 for assistance.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE (EA) LOAN PROGRAM (MPCA CONTACT: JEANNIE GIVEN OR WAYNE GJERDE)

The EA Loan Program (market development/green chemistry) is currently open to applications indefinitely; applications are reviewed upon receipt. The loan program has two options:

- **Participatory loans** provide for awards up to a maximum loan of \$250,000 at zero percent interest (contingent upon available funding in the revolving account). Participatory loan funds must be matched by a minimum dollar-for-dollar match by loans from a participating financial institution.
- **Direct loans** are limited to businesses/entities and provide for awards up to a maximum loan of \$50,000 at four percent interest or half the prime rate.

FOOD WASTE PREVENTION (MPCA CONTACT: COLLEEN HETZEL)

- This past legislative session the MPCA was awarded \$750,000 for two years to work on the issues of preventing food from being wasted and emerging issues related to the capture of organic material. Of that \$750,000, the legislature appropriated \$500,000 each year towards grants for the prevention of wasted food and food donation/rescue. The MPCA is in the process of creating an RFP, which should be available by Spring 2020.
- The remaining funding will be used to address emerging issues or barriers to capturing organics. If you have any questions on the grants please contact Kayla Walsh or Colleen Hetzel

GREENCORPS (MPCA Contact: Tim Farnan)

- The Minnesota GreenCorps program is currently accepting host site applications for the 2020-21 program year. Applications are due on March 18, 2020. Find details here: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/minnesota-greencorps>
- If your organization is selected as a host site members would begin service in September 2020 and serve with your organization for 11 months. Projects should feature well defined work plans,

measurable outcomes and demonstrate that a host organization is committed to supervising and training the member.

RECYCLING MARKET DEVELOPMENT

- \$400,000 per year in funding (for the 2020 and 2021 fiscal years) is allocated to support market development in Minnesota.
- Request for Proposals for first \$400K should be published first quarter 2020. The funding must be spent by end of fiscal year 2023.

SCORE DISBURSEMENTS (MPCA CONTACT: JEANNIE GIVEN)

- A signed and executed grant agreement will be required for all upcoming SCORE disbursements beginning with FY20 second disbursement. An amended grant agreement will need to be signed in September 2020 for FY21 first disbursement. This will become an annual process September of each year.
- SCORE grant agreements for the second disbursement are still under development, and will be sent to delegated signers electronically through a program called DocuSign in March 2020. Please assist your county in getting the grant agreement signed in a timely manner. Late signatures will result in a late disbursement.
- Why did the MPCA implement grant agreements under the longstanding SCORE program?
 - Minnesota’s Department of Administration’s Office of Grants Management (OGM) was established by the Legislature in 2007 in response to a January 2007 program evaluation by the Office of the Legislative Auditor regarding state grant-making. The office began operations in September 2007. The office now works to standardize, streamline and improve state grant-making practices, as well as to increase public information about state grant opportunities.
 - Minnesota Statutes 16B.97 subd. 4(a)(1) provides that the Commissioner of Administration shall “create general grants management policies and procedures that are applicable to all executive agencies.” Minnesota state agencies must use a written grant agreement for all grants made by the agency. Grant agreements must conform to Minnesota Statute 16 B.98 subd. 5 “Creation and Validity of Grant Agreements.” Additionally, Minnesota Statute 16B.98 subd. 5 (a)(2) references the accounting system and encumbering funds, which relates to why we amend annually when allocations aren’t static.
- SCORE disbursements are contingent upon the county satisfying all of the following requirements. If at any time the county does not meet all of these requirements, the block grant funds must, by law, be withheld:
 - Establish a separate general fund account for the grant,
 - Match the grant with at least 25 percent local funds,
 - Spend the grant funds and matching funds only on eligible programs,
 - Submit an annual report on county expenditures and resulting improvements in waste management,
 - Have in place an approved county solid waste management plan and required updates, and
 - Have in place a signed and executed grant agreement.

SOLID WASTE PROCESSING FACILITIES CAPITAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP) (MPCA CONTACT: JEANNIE GIVEN)

Bonding Bill for CAP

- The Governor recommends \$48 million for Capital Assistance Program projects. Project interest was received by Chisago County, City of Coon Rapids, City of Minneapolis, Clay County, Dakota/Scott County, Hennepin County, Organics Infrastructure funding, Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management, Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Center, and Todd County.

- Session runs through May 18, 2020 and legislative appropriations will not be known until after this time.

Policy and Planning

METROPOLITAN SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING (MPCA CONTACT: PEDER SANDHEI)

- The Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Policy Plan was finalized in April 2017. This Plan establishes solid waste objectives for the seven counties in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area.
- The seven County Master Plans were approved by the MPCA by July 2018.
The final Plan, response to comments, and the Findings of Fact are available <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/metropolitan-solid-waste-management-policy-plan>

SOLID WASTE POLICY REPORT (MPCA CONTACT: KAYLA WALSH)

- The Solid Waste Policy Report was recently published and can be found here: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/solid-waste-policy-reports>
- Among many other topics, key areas of the report include: Sustainable Materials Management, Environmental Justice, Climate, Prevention of Wasted Food and Construction and Demolition. The report features new solid waste activity maps and recommendations, which, if implemented, could significantly advance the management of materials and waste in Minnesota.

Sustainable Materials Management

CAPTURE RATES (MPCA CONTACT: BARBARA MONACO)

- MPCA is working to incorporate material capture rates as an additional measure to recycling rates in order to quantify efforts and set targets for handling materials more sustainably. Capture rates allow steps to be taken to improve the recycling program based on what is not being captured, and identify opportunities to replace materials through reduction or reuse.
The next steps include calculating the environmental impacts of certain material types. The goal is to move away from reporting solely on the weight of materials collected, and ultimately reduce the environmental impact of the materials consumed in Minnesota.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING & MATERIALS (MPCA CONTACTS: MELISSA WENZEL, COLLEEN HETZEL, AND ANNIKA BERGEN)

- After the 4 stakeholder meetings in 2018 concluded, the agency created [two advisory groups](#) of external experts to help address material management system issues from two overlapping perspectives: managing materials to prevent groundwater contamination at landfills, and reducing & preventing C&D materials from going to landfills. The workgroups include professionals from across the building sector, and will recommend ways to reduce the overall environmental impacts coming from the built environment. The stakeholder meetings are open to the public, and updates are shared through the MPCA's website and GovDelivery newsletter. Those workgroups held their kickoff meeting in October 2019 and are meeting routinely to come up with suggestions and recommendations for statewide adoption and also fiscal/policy asks for the 2021 legislative session.
- Funding was secured for the agency to hire a contractor to perform a C&D waste characterization study and work of building contractors and reuse retail locations to determine if there is any reuse/recycling happening directly from the build site in order to gain a more comprehensive view on the current state of material use, reuse, processing, and end-of-use. The final report is due early 2020.
- A request to EPA Region 5 staff to hold routine conference calls amongst state leaders was well received. Monthly or bi-monthly conference calls will start early 2020.
- The MPCA is working on improving the data it has for construction and demolition waste (C&D). Since C&D waste is reported in both volume and weight it has been difficult to report on how much C&D is

disposed each year but the MPCA has developed a way to report C&D from facilities by weight. **REUSE MEASUREMENT (MPCA CONTACT: ANNIKA BERGEN)**

- In order to quantify the economic, social, and environmental impacts of statewide reuse (including rental and repair), a survey was launched asking reuse businesses and organizations to report on their activities. If you manage a reuse operation or have businesses in your area that can provide information, please fill out [this survey \(impact.reusemn.org\)](http://impact.reusemn.org) or distribute it to your network by **March 6th, 2020**. If you have questions on the survey or data please contact Annika Bergen (annika.bergen@state.mn.us)

Organics

ORGANICS FACILITIES, COLLECTION, BACKYARD COMPOSTING AND DROP SITES (MPCA CONTACT: TIM FARNAN OR KAYLA WALSH)

- The MPCA partnered with a number of organizations to develop an “Organics Recycling Outreach Guide” which is intended to position programs to have consistent education efforts so similar terminology, color coding and outreach strategies can be implemented in communities with organics recycling. The guide was recently updated. The guide is available on the Minnesota Composting Council’s website at: http://www.mncompostingcouncil.org/uploads/1/5/6/0/15602762/2016_mn_organics_recycling_outreach_guide.pdf
- Many composters have discontinued the practice of accepting plastic lined paper items. Plastic coated paper items may include products like freezer boxes, cups from fast food restaurants and other types of packaging. This trend came about because of concerns about microplastics and PFAS in compost. Additional information about this issue can be found here: <http://www.ecocycle.org/specialreports/microplasticsincompost>
- PFAS is a contaminant of emerging concerns that has been detected in compost contact water. Information on PFAS can be found on this EPA website: <https://www.epa.gov/pfas>. The Agency is researching concentrations of PFAS in contact water and groundwater and trying to identify additional strategies to prevent contact water generation at compost sites. Results of the testing will be available in the spring of 2020. BPI (Biodegradable Products Institute) recently agreed to test for PFAS in their certified compostable products. As of Jan. 1 2020, Inventory with over 100 ppm PFAS will no longer be labeled or marketed as BPI certified.
- Registration for organics drop-off sites is no longer required for the state. Counties and cities can choose to have registration or permit locally if they so choose. Organics drop off sites must continue to follow applicable rules that require they handle organics properly and do not create nuisance conditions. Details about the drop-off rules can be found here: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/compost-facilities>
- MNDOT is updated their 3890 compost specs and has informed the MPCA to have greater flexibility to include compost products made from Source Separated Organics (SSO). Many municipal projects call for using the 3890 spec. Working with project designers to incorporate compost via the 3890 spec has the potential to greatly increase compost markets across the state.
- There are 9 compost sites across Minnesota that accept food waste. Hennepin County recently amended an ordinance that will require organics collection at businesses over the next several years using a phased-in approach. They are exploring increasing organics processing capacity to match projected growth in organics collection. MFS Farms compost site in Good Thunder is not currently accepting waste.

Recycling Market Development (MPCA CONTACT: WAYNE GJERDE, SUSAN HEFFRON, AND JENNIFER NGUYỄN MOORE)

LOCAL MARKET CONDITIONS AND CHALLENGES

- If haulers, LGUs, or facilities are having challenges moving recyclable materials, please contact the MPCA as soon as you are able.
- No community in Minnesota has submitted a request to the MPCA to landfill or dispose recyclable items as trash. All materials collected in Minnesota are recycled domestically or internationally.
- Contamination continues to impact the quality of recyclable materials collected. A concerted effort is made with the collaboration of the Recycling Education Committee to ensure recycling educators have the information needed to reduce contamination and “wishcycling.” The following committees will continue or will be formed:
 - Outreach Guide – A detailed guide on what is accepted/not accepted, best management practices for outreach and Frequently Asked Questions on specific materials
 - Communications Calendar – A list of possible topics educators can use to discuss via communications outlets such as social media, newsletters and in presentations. The priority contamination items focused on are: rechargeable batteries, plastic bags/bagging recyclables, shredded paper; and no electrical cords, hoses
 - Hauler Engagement – (NEW) Haulers coming together to create standardized education and develop consistent practices and enforcement
- MRF’s are continuing to install equipment and make processing changes/improvements to achieve cleaner bales.
- Even though prices for recycling materials are low, the material is moving.
- Cities that were profiting from recycling are now paying MRFs to process the material.

PRICING

- Prices continue to drop for recycling commodities.
- Mixed paper Feb 2020: -\$2.50/ton; Feb 2019: -\$2.50/ton; Feb 2018: \$22.50
- Cardboard (OCC) Feb 2020: \$27.50/ton; Feb 2019: \$60/ton; Feb 2018: \$90/ton
- Aluminum Baled Feb 2020: \$1040/ton; Feb 2019: \$1140/ton; Feb 2018: \$1420/ton
- Mixed Glass continues to have negative value at -\$10-20/ton
- Baled PET has dropped 30% in the last year
- Natural HDPE has risen 36% and Colored HDPE has dropped 45% in the last year *prices from recyclingmarkets.net midwest/central region

MARKET DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

- MPCA continues to work toward expanding end market capacity in Minnesota. High priority materials are
 - **Paper:** Compostable service ware for food (PFAS free) and optical sorting facility for mixed paper
 - **Agricultural plastic, Retail film and stretch film:** Facility to wash and pelletize plastic in Minnesota
 - **Glass:** MNDOT permissive specification for foamed glass and foamed glass production facility
- MPCA continue to track developments in the export markets related to import and license bans in Southeast Asia and how this affects Minnesota markets.
- MPCA is on track to loan \$250,000 to Green Forest to develop a mixed paper sorting facility in Waseca and \$125,000 to Choice Plastics for a wash line at their Mound facility.

RECYCLED MARKET DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP

- In 2019 city, county, state recycling coordinators along with recycling industry met to collaborate in supporting recycled market development in Minnesota.
- The following materials will be focused on to develop policy, provide feedback on funding as well as create priorities to support stable markets. This work will continue for about a year with developing concrete projects and action to supporting the following materials. Updates on each material are included:
 - **Glass:** The group is reviewing the current markets for glass in Minnesota. RAM and Strategic Materials put on a well-attended Glass Forum in mid-November.
 - **Mixed Paper:** Identify potential local and regional partners for the development of new or expanded recyclable material markets, develop a campaign to increase the use of products from mixed paper.
 - **Organics:** The group is currently researching the various types of handling food waste and compostable service ware and will be deciding which method we should focus on. Current in scope items include: composting, anaerobic digestion and food to people/hogs.

Landfills

DEMOLITION LANDFILLS (MPCA CONTACT: COURTNEY AHLERS-NELSON)

- The fall of 2018, the Agency initiated rulemaking to address the observed impacts from unlined construction and demolition debris landfills.
- In June 2019, the Agency solicited for members of the Rule Advisory Panel. 16 panel members from a variety of stakeholder groups were selected. The initial meeting of the Rule Advisory Panel was in October 2019.
- Also in October, the Agency completed a Report on Unlined Landfilling of Construction and Demolition Debris. The completion of Report included a peer review by US EPA, USGS and Ohio EPA.
- Since 2019, a total of seven private off-site wells at three different demo landfills have been identified as having MDH drinking water advisories for contamination found above MDH drinking water thresholds.
- <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/construction-and-demolition-landfills-groundwater>
- <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/construction-and-demolition-landfills-groundwater-data>

PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) (MPCA CONTACT: BETH GAWRYS)

- Eight County MMSW landfills manage leachate through land application
- Groundwater monitoring at four land application sites have exceeded MDH Health Risk Limits, groundwater monitoring at five sites are not achieving reporting limits that enable compliance determinations.
- Four MSW landfills that land apply leachate are researching pretreatment methods to develop a treatment for PFAS compounds
- PFAS is now an area of focus for several states and U.S. EPA.
- The Agency is looking at PFAS across programs and media (WWTP, bio solids, closed landfill, etc.) to reduce impacts to groundwater, surface water and air and for consistency.

Reporting

SOLID WASTE FACILITY ANNUAL REPORTS (MPCA CONTACT: LISA MOJSIEJ, SCOTT PARR, OR SHELLY SIEWERT)

- The annual report submittal is a 3-part process:
 1. Completing all assigned forms in Re-TRAC – which includes waste volume information along with facility operations data
 2. Submitting monitoring data to EQUIS. This step is only for facilities that are required to submit environmental monitoring data including groundwater, surface water, leachate, gas, and soil monitoring results
 3. Submitting a complete electronic file copy including all additional information required by your permit
- Annual reports are due by February 1, 2020 for open and closed landfills, waste processing facilities, waste tire facilities, transfer stations, case-specific beneficial use determinations (CSBUD), and demonstration research projects (DRP).
- Annual reports are due by March 1, 2020 for recycling facilities, and composting facilities.
- 2019 Solid Waste Annual Reports added two new forms that were required by all facilities:
 - **Counties Served:** this form is an updated version of the previous form of the same name but breaks down the waste received into individual waste streams by county of origin
 - **Recycling Activity – Other:** Additional questions were added to the Recycling Activity – Other form to better understand the universe of waste processors and material recovery facilities and the level of contamination we are encountering at these facilities.
- The Annual Report Submittal form was updated for 2019 in an effort to reduce the duplication of data entry required by facilities and provide instructions on the submittal of the required file copy to the MPCA via Sharebase. There are still facilities that are not submitting the file copy to the MPCA which is a violation of their permit.

SCORE REPORTING (MPCA CONTACT: BEN CROWELL)

- SCORE reporting is due on April 1st of each calendar year. Delays in data submission will delay the annual SCORE report which is now in interactive format on the MPCA webpage.
- The Program Details survey will be part of SCORE in the 2019 reporting cycle. There was a delay in getting survey up but it is now available for counties to fill out through Re-TRAC.
- When in their SCORE account in Re-TRAC, counties can go to the analytics tab and view the hauler report for their county.
 - For Metro counties this report is only available for 2019 data and beyond due to the large changes made to the Metro reporting forms, but previous years are available by request to the MPCA.

HAULER REPORTING (MPCA CONTACT: PEDER SANDHEI)

- **Reminder:** All haulers of MSW and recyclable materials must report to the MPCA. The reporting cycle is annual for haulers operating in Greater Minnesota and is due February 1st of each calendar year and quarterly for haulers operating in the Metro.
- If haulers operating in your county have not reported to MPCA, the county is responsible for providing waste and destination information to the MPCA on SCORE surveys, as was done in the past.
- For metro county reporting, the collected and delivered forms have been combined and are entered for each county on a quarterly basis at a city level.

Product Stewardship

PAINT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM/PAINTCARE (MPCA CONTACT: MATTHEW WEBB)

- County reports for June-December 2019 period are under final review. Once totals are confirmed with PaintCare, MPCA will be invoicing PaintCare for county reimbursement for the reporting period.
- Reports indicate relatively level paint collection remains relatively consistent with that reported over the previous four years.
- On June 26, 2019, MPCA approved PaintCare request to maintain stewardship fees at current levels through June 30, 2021. This should allow PaintCare to clear the program's operating deficit and build a small operating reserve. If no further action is taken the fees will revert to previous levels as of July 1, 2021. The current fee levels have been in place at retail since September 1, 2017.
- PaintCare analysis of current fee levels due to MPCA by January 1, 2021. PaintCare has indicated that at that time it also wishes to have an expanded conversation with MPCA regarding future fee levels and the program's reserve percent.
- PaintCare 2019 Minnesota Annual Report and Financial Analysis available here: <https://www.paintcare.org/wp-content/uploads/docs/mn-annual-report-2019.pdf>
- Minnesota PaintCare Program Manager: Steve Pincuspy (612-719-5216; spincuspy@paint.org)

E-WASTE (MPCA CONTACT: AMANDA COTTON OR MATTHEW WEBB)

- QAQC of PY12 (Program Year 12: July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019) data is complete. PY12 recycling total came to 24.0 million pounds, which continued the downward trend as it was a drop from the PY11 total of 26.6 million which was down from the PY10 total of 28.7 million.
- PY13 manufacturer recycling obligation is 21,678,766 pounds which is likely to be relatively close to the total pounds recycled in PY13, though the 1.5 multiplier for non-metro pounds has returned in PY13.
- Recent outreach was made to all known manufacturers that remain unregistered with the program. The effort has resulted in a few hits though all who do not reply or initiate the registration process will be added to the cease sales list no later than February 15, 2020.
- Working on compliance for manufacturer sales reporting due March 1, 2020. Reporting was opened on February 6 and will now be completed exclusively in Re-TRAC, which will increase efficiency for both manufacturers and the e-waste program while also minimizing error risk in the QAQC process.
- Proposed changes to the e-waste statute in 2018 did not go through and currently discussing potential to try again with the counties in 2020 or 2021. The 2018 proposed language was not intended to make changes to the original intent of the 2016 Statute, but simply to fill in gaps and make connections that were not clear as it is currently written. PCA is currently working on proposed language from with the counties that the PSC will review with SWAA.

SOLAR PANELS (MPCA CONTACT: AMANDA COTTON)

- To prepare Minnesota for the stream of 21 million solar panels in the coming years, the MPCA has started a stakeholder process organized with the Minnesota Department of Commerce and Minnesota Solar Energy Industries Association. The goal of the stakeholder process is to collaborate to develop and implement PV panel end of life management policy and programs that conserve resources, protect health, promote renewable energy, and support PV panel recycling infrastructure and technology. Since June of 2019 three WebEx meetings have been held. The first included presentations from MPCA on a working draft white paper that is open for public review and comment, and survey of an initial set of representatives from the industry. That was followed in October by presentations from the Solar Energy Industries Association, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and Illinois Sustainable Technology Center. December's WebEx focused on recycling and manufacturing with presentations from NREL, Professor Phadke from Macalester discussing urban mining, the recycler Cascade Eco Minerals and two manufacturers representing thin film and silicon panels, First Solar and Minnesota's

own Heliene. 2020 will bring presentations on Product Stewardship 101 and the EPEAT standards for electronics that now include solar panels, followed by discussions on policy options. These presentations have started to show how many panels are being installed with projections of de-installations into the future, what the panels are made of and what they are worth in today's markets, which electronics recyclers in the US are accepting this material and what it costs and, what is happening with PV panel policy in the US and Europe. More accurate data is still needed on what is coming out of the waste stream, whether panels are testing as hazardous or not, and how to prepare for and fund a system for solar panel decommissioning at the end-of-life.

Training and Education

RECYCLING EDUCATION COMMITTEE (MPCA CONTACT: KAYLA WALSH)

- A first draft of the Recycling Outreach Guide has been published on RAM's website: https://recycleminnesota.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Recycling-Outreach-Guide-Final_07.2019.pdf This guide will serve as a general "How-to" for recycling program coordinators, and will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure information is current and relevant.
- REC is working with Recycling Partnership, a national organization that's focusing on some recycling campaigns in Minnesota. RP received an 85K grant from the EPA to do education for recycling and REC is helping to prioritize that spending on community-based social marketing programs. Rollout of materials will take place this fall, 2020. Materials include educational videos, social media posts, a revamped signmaker tool, blog posts, FAQ's and more.
- REC's priorities for education and resource development, as decided by the group, include:
 - No Bags and Un-Bag your recycling
 - Back To Basics (No Wishcycling; Here's How the System Works Info-Graphic)
 - Stop Hazards (lithium batteries, etc.)
 - Universal Cart Tags and Trainings
 - Environmental Justice (Taking a culturally-appropriate approach and providing equal access in all areas of our work)

REC is open to anyone interested in participating. Contact Kayla.Walsh@state.mn.us for more details.

COMMERCIAL RECYCLING (MPCA CONTACTS: SCOTT PARR, C&E; KAYLA WALSH)

- In 2016, the Minnesota Legislature passed the Commercial Recycling law (§115A.151). It requires businesses in the Twin Cities Metro Area that generate four or more cubic yards per week of total trash must recycle at least three types of materials. More information about the Commercial Recycling law is available at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/recycling-your-business>.
- The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency emphasizes outreach, education and assistance. The agency is working with building owners, counties, cities, haulers, businesses, and trade groups to help businesses understand the commercial recycling law and the available resources to start or improve their recycling programs.
- A tip line is available on the MPCA website for citizens to report cases of non-participation. To date, we've received about 30 notifications. MPCA staff try to conduct a site visit to verify the status and communicate with the owners. We also send a follow-up letter that asks for an explanation of what measures the business will/has implemented to ensure compliance to compliance and enforcement staff.

MPCA Staff Contact Information

Annika Bergen	Annika.Bergen@state.mn.us	651-757-2605
Jake Brady	Jacob.Brady@state.mn.us	507-285-7343
Ben Crowell	Ben.Crowell@state.mn.us	507-476-4261
David Crowell	David.Crowell@state.mn.us	218-316-3855
Danielle Drussell	Danielle.Drussell@state.mn.us	218-302-6611
Heidi Ringhofer	Heidi.ringhofer@state.mn.us	218-302-6652
Tim Farnan	Timothy.Farnan@state.mn.us	651-757-2348
Lee Field	Lee.Field@state.mn.us	218-302-6609
Beth Gawrys	Elizabeth.Gawrys@state.mn.us	651-757-2380
Jeannie Given	Jeannie.Given@state.mn.us	651-757-2459
Wayne Gjerde	Wayne.Gjerde@state.mn.us	651-757-2392
Chris Green	Chris.Green@state.mn.us	507-476-4258
Abdi Hassan	Abdi.Hassan@state.mn.us	651-757-2449
Susan Heffron	Susan.Heffron@state.mn.us	651-757-2417
Colleen Hetzel	Colleen.Hetzel@state.mn.us	651-757-2433
Heidi Kroening	Heidi.Kroening@state.mn.us	218-302-6620
Lisa Mojsiej	Lisa.Mojsiej@state.mn.us	651-757-2373
Barbara Monaco	Barbara.Monaco@state.mn.us	651-336-3236
Sean O'Connor	Sean.OConnor@state.mn.us	651-757-2620
Scott Parr	Scott.Parr@state.mn.us	651-757-2638
Melissa Peck	Melissa.Peck@state.mn.us	651-757-2343
Mark Rust	Mark.Rust@state.mn.us	651-757-2684
Peder Sandhei	Peder.Sandhei@state.mn.us	651-757-2688
Sig Scheurle	Sig.Scheurle@state.mn.us	612-669-1377
Shelly Siewert	Shelly.Siewert@state.mn.us	651-757-2723
Kayla Walsh	Kayla.Walsh@state.mn.us	651-757-2108
Matthew Webb	Matthew.Webb@state.mn.us	651-757-2811
Melissa Wenzel	Melissa.Wenzel@state.mn.us	651-757-2251