

The HazWaste Quarterly

Summer 2018



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Personnel Training - What's Required?

Are you meeting your requirements?

All hazardous waste generators have basic management requirements which provide for the safe handling and proper disposal of hazardous wastes.

Depending on the quantity of waste you generate, your company's hazardous waste training requirements may be different, from the company down the street, your friend's or your competition's company. Generally, the more waste you generate, the more extensive the requirements.



Make a list of all the hazardous waste you generate and add up the volume, excluding exempt wastes, like used oil and related wastes, spent lead acid batteries and other scrap metals, fluorescent lamps, and universal wastes, to find out where your company fits in.

What's the next step?

Our goal is to help your company generate less hazardous waste. One of the most effective ways to avoid generating

unnecessary wastes and problems relating to hazardous waste is to thoroughly train employees on how to perform their job duties safely and properly. This knowledge can lead to improved efficiency and reduced waste. Effective training enables your employees to identify ways to improve performance and processes.

What's required for my company?

VSQGs have no formal or documented training requirements. However, employees need to be familiar enough with waste handling procedures and proper emergency response to maintain your company's compliance. Training employees, whether on the job or in the classroom, is really the only way to accomplish this. To determine an individual's training needs, think about the types of job responsibilities they perform. We strongly recommend that all employees are trained in your emergency response procedures.

What size generator am I?

You need to know what size generator your company is in order to identify and meet your training requirements. Minnesota Rule pt. 7045.0206 identifies three size categories of hazardous waste generators:

- Large Quantity Generators (LQG) – companies that generate greater than or equal to 1000 kg of waste per month; approximately 2200 lbs. or 4 (or more) 55 gallon drums per month.
- Small Quantity Generators (SQG) – companies that generate between 100 and 1000 kg of waste per month; between 220 lbs. and 2200 lbs. or 1/2 drum up to 4 drums per month.
- Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG) – companies that generate less than or equal to 100 kg of waste per month; approximately 220 lbs. or 1/2 drum per month.

Clear your clutter!

The MN Materials Exchange website links organizations that have reusable good to others that can use them. Check them out at mnexchange.org

Personnel Training

Continued from page 1

SQGs must document that they have trained their employees **once** in the hazardous waste and emergency response duties that are relevant to their jobs. If they handle waste or sign manifests only, those are the items they need to be trained in. Ensure that employees who require training have received it within six months of their hire date or any change in their job responsibilities. Additionally, these employees may not perform these duties unsupervised until this training has been done.

LQGs have much more comprehensive training requirements, including:

- Having a designated hazardous waste program coordinator.
- Keeping records listing job titles, job descriptions, and job requirements.
- An outline or description of the contents of the training course.
- Training new employees within 6 months of hiring.
- Annual refresher training, and
- Maintaining documentation on all hazardous waste training.

Keep in mind that hazardous waste training is in addition to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) annual employee Right-To-Know training and the hazardous materials training required by the Department of Transportation (DOT). However, since all of these trainings cover similar and overlapping subjects they could be successfully incorporated into one training program.

Are there resources available?

Contact Karen Reilly to discuss how we can help with your training needs.

Open Data Portal



A unique view into demolition waste

In 2017, Ramsey County launched its Open Data Portal, a website dedicated to sharing information from county programs with the general public and interested parties. Our Pre-demolition Inspection Program was one of the first to have its own page on the portal.

Check it out at opendata.ramseycounty.us.

Tracking hazardous items

Visitors can see the amounts of hazardous items tracked from over 1,600 pre-demolition inspections going back to 2009. The data is arranged by the amount and type of material and whether they came from residential or commercial demolitions. You have the option to manipulate the data online, including sorting by year or making graphs. The dataset can also be downloaded as an excel file for further analysis.

At home or at work?

Analyzing demolition waste data can also provide you with a better idea of what you might have at home or work. For example, roughly 92% of residential and 80% of commercial buildings still have asbestos present. Some of the most common items removed from buildings are paints and appliances - both those that contain CFC refrigerant (commonly referred to as Freon) and those that do not.

- CFC-containing appliances and oil-based paint are more often found in commercial demolitions
- Non-CFC appliances and latex paint are more commonly found in residential demolitions.

Moving forward the program has plans to expand the data available and use it to educate Ramsey County residents and businesses on the importance of proper disposal of household items and building materials.

Let BizRecycling® help you recycle better

Most business required to recycle

Since January 2016, most metro area business are required to recycle at least three types of material, such as paper, glass, metal, or organics. BizRecycling® was created to help businesses, like yours, add or expand recycling and organics programs. Here's a bonus - in addition to meeting the legal requirement - adding or expanding recycling while decreasing garbage service can save your organization hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars a year!



What we offer

- A site visit from one of our local recycling experts, who will custom-design a recycling plan for your business, at no charge to you.
- Grants up to \$10,000 for containers, labels, equipment and minor facility upgrades; the recycling experts can assist you in applying.
- Resources, like help with employee training and program implementation.
- No obligation to your business.

Local stories

Metro Manufacturing switched to single-sort recycling and is saving more than \$1,500 annually on trash service. They are diverting around 14,000 pounds of recyclables each year.

Grand Avenue Veterinary Center called their trash hauler to clarify their pricing, reducing their bill by 40%, saving them about \$2,000 per year.

Bona Bros. Auto and Truck cut their trash pick-ups and are diverting nine tons of single-sort recycling and eight tons of cardboard annually, resulting in monthly cost savings on their trash bills.

Want to know more?

Visit BizRecycling.com and click on Contact Us or call 651-266-1199.

BizRecycling® is a program of the Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy Board.

Questions, Questions (and some answers!)

We are cleaning out our storage area and have old chemicals to dispose of. How do we go about using the Very Small Quantity Generator collection program?

Ramsey County's Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG) collection program, operated by Bay West, allows Ramsey County businesses licensed as a VSQG to transport their hazardous waste themselves for disposal. You bypass the use of a licensed hazardous waste transporter, which can save your business money.

Here are the criteria for using the VSQG collection program:

- **Waste is not accepted without an appointment.** Call 651-291-3451 to schedule your appointment.
- Have your hazardous waste identification number (HWID) ready. If your company does not have a HWID, contact county staff at 651-266-1199 for assistance.
- Have a list of the types and quantities of wastes. This can include a Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for each waste. If an SDS doesn't exist, a general familiarity of the waste, such as how it was used or the process that generated it, will suffice.

- Do not bring packaging, empty containers, or non-hazardous wastes. Bay West cannot take your trash.

You must follow these transportation guidelines:

- Transport waste in containers that are no larger than five gallons and can be left at the facility.
- Containers must be closed, labeled, in good condition and secured in the vehicle to prevent spills or breakage.
- Keep incompatible waste separated.
- Transport fluorescent lamps in the original (or similar) container. Do not tape them together.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has a comprehensive fact sheet on using a VSQG collection program at pca.state.mn.us. Search for "w-hw2-53.pdf".

Environmental Health Division
2785 White Bear Ave. N., Suite 350
Maplewood, MN 55109-1320

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Inspectors

Aaron Chavez

651-266-1182 | aaron.chavez@ramseycounty.us
Inspection areas: 55101, 55103, 55104, 55106,
55130, 55155, pre-demolition inspections and
Ramsey County Hospitals.

Paul Gelbmann

651-266-1183 | paul.gelbmann@ramseycounty.us
Inspection areas: 55110, 55119, 55126, 55127, 55144,
55449 and Ramsey County auto salvage/ scrap yards.

Caroline Lund

651-266-1180 | caroline.lund@ramseycounty.us
Inspection areas: 55102, 55105, 55107, 55114, 55116
and pre-demolition inspections.

Laura Piotrowski

651-266-1185 | laura.piotrowski@ramseycounty.us
Inspection areas: 55108, 55112, 55113, 55414, 55421,
55432 and the Self-Audit program.

Inspection areas 55109 and 55117 are currently
unassigned, call 651-266-1199 for assistance.

Solid and Hazardous Waste Compliance Program Supervisor

Michael Reed

651-266-1181 | michael.reed@ramseycounty.us

Business Assistance & Training

Karen Reilly

651-266-1186 | karen.reilly@ramseycounty.us

Solid Waste Haulers

Joe Wozniak

651-266-1187 | joe.wozniak@ramseycounty.us

Environmental Health Division

2785 White Bear Ave. North
Suite 350

Maplewood, MN 55109
651-266-1199

ramseycounty.us