Obtaining a Hazardous Waste License in Hennepin County

Commercial Hazardous Waste Factsheet

Types of licenses given to businesses

Hennepin County issues two types of licenses to hazardous waste generators – a full license or a minimal license.

A full license is issued to very small quantity, small quantity, and large quantity generators. A minimal license is issued to minimal generators. If you produce less than 10 gallons of fully regulated hazardous waste per year, you may qualify for a minimal license.

Full licenses are valid for one year (May 1 through April 30).

Generator size

The type of full license your business needs depends on your generator size, which is determined by how much hazardous waste your businesses produces each month. Use the chart below as a general guide to determine what type of license you may need. Certain wastes will not count toward generator size (examples include used oil, lead acid batteries, and fluorescent lamps).

If you generate:	Then your generator size is:
2,200 pounds or more per month of hazardous waste (about 4 drums of liquid or more)	Large Quantity Generator (LQG)
More than 220 pounds but less than 2,200 pounds per month of hazardous waste (about 1/2 to 4 drums of liquid)	Small Quantity Generator (SQG)
220 pounds or less per month of hazardous waste (about 1/2 drum of liquid or less)	Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG)

Minimal Generators

A minimal generator is a business that generates only the following wastes:

- Ten gallons or less per year of hazardous waste such as solvent or paint thinner.
- Used oil (including transmission fluid, brake fluid, hydraulic fluid), used oil and fuel contaminated sorbents, used oil filters or petroleum fuel filters.
- Lead acid batteries.
- Special hazardous wastes including electronics and photographic negatives.
- Universal wastes including lamps, batteries, pesticides and mercury-containing equipment such as thermostats, switches, or thermometers.
- Photographic fixer solution (less than 220 pounds/month) and x-ray film that is shipped off site for recycling.
- Photographic fixer solution treated on site to remove hazardous constituents.
- Fuel/water mixtures not stored or accumulated on site.

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Obtaining a full license

1. **Complete and submit a Hennepin County license application.**

   Complete a Waste Inventory (Form 1) and a Management Plan (Form 2) for each waste your business generates.

   Send the completed forms to:
   Hennepin County Environmental Services
   Commercial Hazardous Waste Unit
   417 North 5th Street
   Minneapolis, MN 55401

2. **Apply for a Hazardous Waste Identification (Waste ID) number.**

   Send the completed form to MPCA at the address provided at the top of the form.

3. **Inspection**

   After we have received the completed license application, a county inspector will visit your site to conduct an initial hazardous waste inspection. The inspector will review the activities of your business that generate waste and assist you in your determination of which wastes are hazardous.

   The inspector will also provide information regarding proper waste management and the rules that apply to your business. The inspector will identify any issues that need to be addressed or corrected and will specify a time frame for their correction.

4. **Pay license fee**

   A license statement will be issued to your business. Upon receipt of the above noted paperwork and the fee, you will be issued a Hazardous Waste Generator license.

5. **Update Management Plan Summary and return to county**

   Fully licensed generators must renew their license every year. In November of each year the county will issue a Management Plan Summary to your company and ask that it be reviewed and returned with any corrections noted by Dec. 15.

We make every attempt to keep the licensing process as simple and painless as possible, but remember that the law allows penalties for generators who refuse to comply with the licensing requirements. If you think that you generate hazardous waste and are not licensed, please complete and submit a license application or call (612) 348-3777 and ask for the environmentalist-on-call to arrange an inspection, and we will help you get into compliance.

Hennepin County Environmental Services
612-348-3777
Ask for the environmentalist-on-call
www.hennepin.us/businesshazardouswaste

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