



Minnesota
Pollution
Control
Agency

Fiberglass Fabricators Audit Checklist – Solid Waste

Small Business
Assistance
Program

Environmental Audit/Industry Specific/#3.01/November 2000

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) environmental audit checklists are designed to assist businesses by providing a low cost way of reviewing compliance with Minnesota's environmental laws and rules. Because the laws and rules are numerous and often complicated, this checklist cannot be a complete guide to your legal obligations. You may have obligations that are not covered on this checklist. If you have questions regarding this checklist, your obligations, or conditions you discover when you evaluate your business operations, call the Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) at (651) 282-6143 or 1 (800) 657-3938.

For additional information on pollution prevention and waste minimization contact the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) at (612) 624-1300 or 1 (800) 247-0015.

Date of Evaluation	
Company	
Completed by/Title	

1. Do you know which of your business wastes are solid (non hazardous) wastes?

- Yes** Continue to the next question.
- No** See the table below. Call the Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) or the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) for further questions.

Fiberglass Fabrication Solid Wastes	
Industrial Solid Wastes	
Solid resin and gelcoat wastes generated during the production process.	Trimmings, sanding and grinding waste, overspray masking, off-spec pieces, unwanted molds
Solidified masses of catalyzed resins and gelcoats generated from the treatment of unused liquid resin and gel coat.	Break up the solidified mass to verify complete polymerization!
Vacuum bagging plastic	
Wastes where painting is done	Masking tape, paper, sandpaper, strainers, preparation / mixing cups Make sure there are no free liquids!
Empty aerosol cans	Make sure cans are empty, rather than just plugged at the tip!
Common Office Solid Wastes	
Municipal Solid Wastes	
Office materials	Receipts, invoices, etc.
Household wastes	Paper napkins, plates, facial tissue, etc.
Furniture	Office chairs, desks, tables, etc.
Glass	Window panes, containers, etc.
Packing material	Polystyrene, shredded paper, etc.
Non-oily fabric	Clothing, etc.
Plastic	All types: polywrap, containers, etc.
Paper	All types
Cardboard	Boxes, etc.





2. Do you self-haul or have a commercial hauler deliver your solid wastes to a disposal facility that has a permit to accept these wastes?

- Yes** Continue this practice. Reduce, reuse, and recycle solid waste, as possible.
- No** If you dispose of your waste in Minnesota, you must send it to a disposal facility that has a Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) permit to accept this waste.

Do not know.

- Find out where your waste is taken for disposal.
- If you ship to a disposal facility in Minnesota, make sure that facility has an MPCA permit.
- If you are uncertain if a facility has this permit, contact the MPCA Solid Waste Program at (651) 296-7276.
- If you ship industrial solid waste to a disposal facility in Minnesota, make sure it is an approved industrial waste under that permitted disposal facility's Industrial Waste Management Plan.
- If you are uncertain about whether a particular solid waste will be accepted, contact the operator of the permitted disposal facility where you ship your waste to request guidelines.

3. Do you ensure that your solid wastes do not contain free liquids?

- Yes** Continue this practice.
- No** You must begin this practice. It is illegal to dispose of liquids with your solid wastes.

4. Are your solid waste hauling invoices and disposal costs too high?

- Yes** You need to continue with this checklist.
- No** Continue if you want to learn some useful, cost-saving tips.

HINT: Many solid wastes can be reused or recycled. Cardboard and boxboard may be commercially recyclable in your area, maybe even at a potential profit for you. Any reduction you can achieve in the volume of your solid waste will reduce your routine dumpster pickup needs and your garbage bill.

5. Do you reuse or recycle empty containers from product use?

- Yes** Continue this practice.
- No** Think about beginning this practice.

NOTE: Solid waste haulers and disposal sites typically reject commercial containers that are not clearly empty. If you dispose of empty catalyst containers slit the bottoms to make sure they are truly empty.

Hint: Call MnTAP for their fact sheet on Industrial Scrap Plastic, or find it on the internet at <http://www.mntap.umn.edu>

6. Do you reuse paper in the office and the shop?

- Yes** Continue this practice.
- No** Think about beginning this practice.
- Once-used paper can be reused in the copier or made into scratch paper pads.
 - Double-sided copying will reduce paper use overall.
 - Set up a recycling bin for recycling office paper.

HINT: Think about whether electronic records are sufficient for your needs before printing or copying to paper.

Contacts
For businesses with fewer than 100 employees. MPCA Small Business Assistance Program (651) 282-6143 (800) 657-3938
MPCA Web site: http://www.pca.state.mn.us
For information on waste minimization and pollution prevention Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (612) 624-1300 (800) 247-0015 http://www.mntap.umn.edu
County Programs Solid Waste and Recycling http://www.moea.state.mn.us/lc/county.cfm