



Environmental assistance loans

organics & recycling
green chemistry
pollution prevention
source reduction



The Environmental Assistance Loan Program



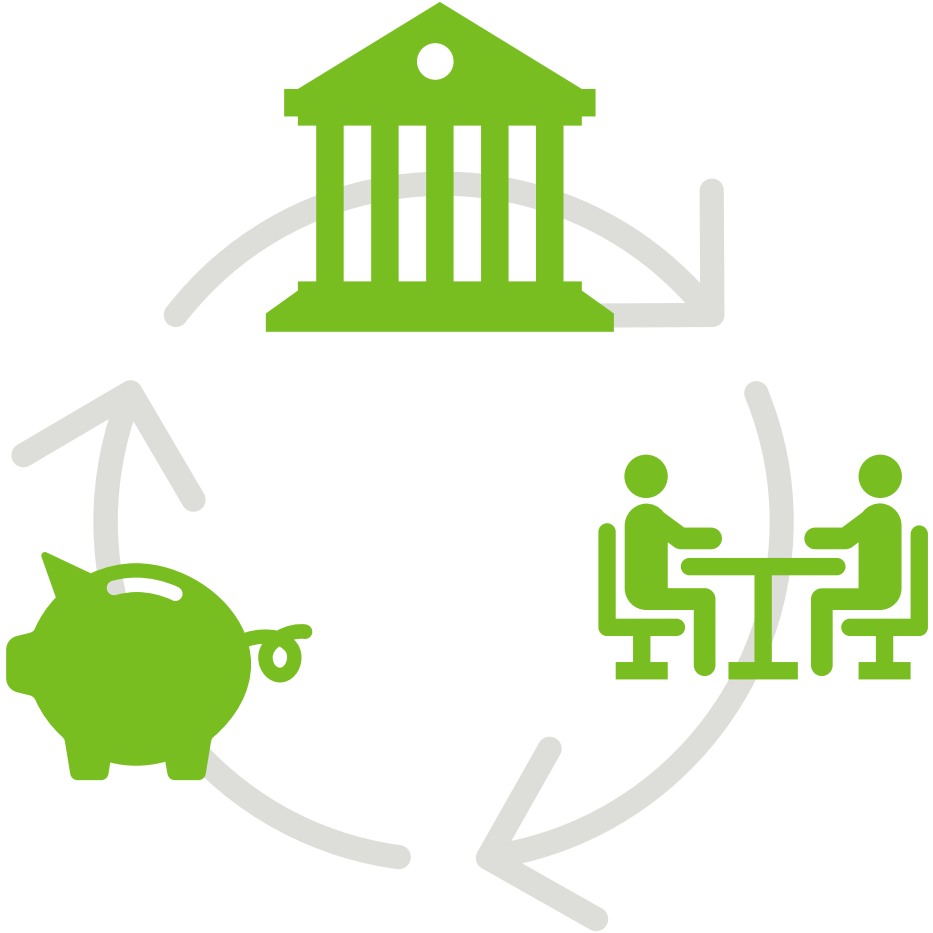
A revolving loan fund where the amount of funds available at any given time will vary as past recipients repay their loans.

Currently, \$797,000 is available. \$400,000 for organics recycling projects, \$379,000 for other projects.

Projects are awarded on a rolling, first-come-first-served basis.

Loans are awarded for capital expenses – machinery & equipment – for projects that improve Minnesota's environment and economy.

Loan Types



Participatory Loans

- Maximum amount: \$600,000
- Interest: 0% on MPCA portion
- Must be matched dollar-for-dollar by loans from a participating financial institution

Direct Loans

- Maximum amount: \$100,000
- Interest: 0%
- Applicant must provide a 25% match

Loans term agreements are negotiable, up to a maximum of seven years.

See website for full details: www.pca.state.mn.us/grants-and-loans/environmental-assistance-loans

Eligible Applicants



SMALL & MEDIUM
BUSINESSES

LOCAL & TRIBAL
GOVERNMENTS

Eligible applicants:

- Anyone who is not an individual that does not own a business.

Priority applicants:

- Small & medium businesses
- Local governments or political subdivisions of MN
- Tribal governments

Start-up businesses are eligible for Direct Loans on a case-by-case basis only; however, they are eligible for Participatory Loans.

Eligible Projects

FOR MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT



green chemistry
pollution prevention
waste reduction
recycling & organics

Eligible projects:

- Any project that will improve Minnesota's environment and economy will be considered

Priority project types:

- Green chemistry
- Pollution prevention
- Source reduction
- Recycling
- Organics recycling

Eligible expenses:

- Capital costs such as machinery and equipment, including freight, installation, and related improvements.

Priority Project Types

Green chemistry: an approach to designing and manufacturing products that minimizes the use and generation of toxic substances. Green chemistry projects include product design or redesign, raw material substitutions and process modifications.

Example: A manufacturer that operates a coating line for their products switches from a solvent-based coating to a powder-based coating, eliminating the solvent use and waste generated.

Pollution prevention: an activity that eliminates or reduces at the source the use, generation, or release of toxic pollutants, hazardous substances, and hazardous wastes.

Example: A metal fabricator switches from a solvent-based degreaser like TCE to an aqueous-based cleaning system, eliminating the use of a carcinogenic solvent.

Source reduction: an activity that prevents the generation of waste or the inclusion of toxic materials in waste, including reusing a product in its original form, increasing the life span of a product, reducing material or the toxicity of material used in production or packaging, or changing procurement, consumption, or waste generation habits to result in smaller quantities or lower toxicity of waste generated.

Priority Project Types

Recycling: the process of collecting and preparing recyclable materials and reusing the materials in their original form or using them in manufacturing processes that do not cause the destruction of recyclable materials in a manner that precludes further use. Eligible projects also include the development and manufacturing of products that use recycled materials.

Example: A business that turns recycled paper and newsprint into egg cartons needs to purchase an upgraded dryer for their molded products so they can begin using a harder-to-recycle grade of paper.

Organics recycling: the process of collecting, preparing, and processing organic materials, including but not limited to food waste and yard waste, via methods including but not limited to composting, anaerobic digestion with the beneficial use of digestate and biogas (required for eligibility), or food-to-livestock in a manner that diverts the material and outputs from incineration or landfilling.

Example: A compost facility needs to purchase a new windrow turner to expand their operations and take in more material.

Priority Project Types



Not sure if your project idea is eligible?

Email us! Grants-Loans.pca@state.mn.us

Need help coming up with an idea or refining it for the application?

Programs like MnTAP can be a resource for developing project ideas and can help with making technical recommendations and aid with determining the project's cost.

[MnTAP - Minnesota Technical Assistance Program](#)

How to Apply



Applications are accepted on a continuous basis.

You can email your project ideas, questions, and applications to Grants-Loans.pca@state.mn.us

MPCA recommends reviewing the EA Loan webpage, FAQ document, application, and RFP before emailing with questions.

Learn more about how to apply at [Environmental assistance loans | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency](#)

Questions?