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Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

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<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/>

AT A GLANCE

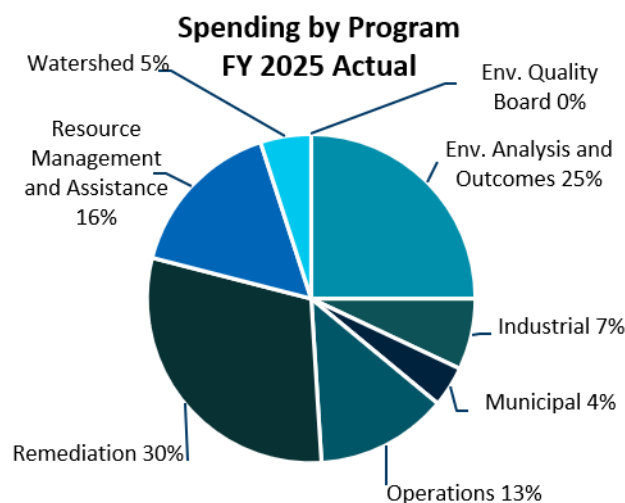
- 1,126 employees in FY26: 759 in Saint Paul and 367 in six regional offices; 40 are student workers or seasonal employees
- Protect and improve the environment and human health by issuing and modifying more than 28,000 permits with environmental standards to avoid or limit pollution
- Monitor the condition of air, ground and surface water, and land at more than 2,320 sites
- Inspect and license more than 45,000 sites that involve hazardous waste, feedlots, and storage tanks
- Offer 225 online e-services to boost efficiency, and are used by over 35,000 state, county, consultant and permittee users
- Triaged 4,630 emergency notifications, and responded to 2,732 spills in Fiscal Year 2026

PURPOSE

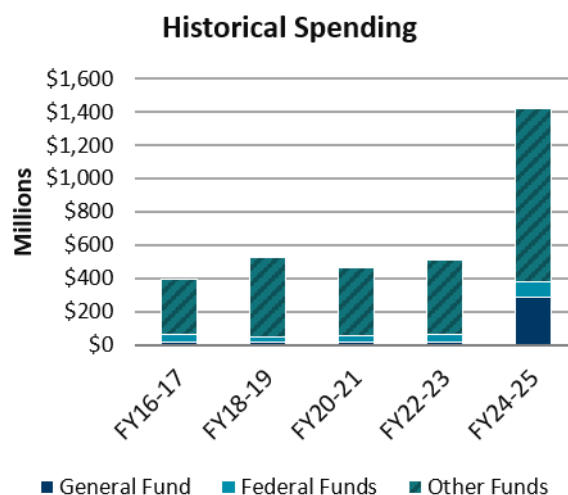
The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) mission is to protect and improve the environment and human health. The MPCA fosters a diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace and throughout its agency operations.

The MPCA monitors environmental quality, offers technical and financial assistance, enforces environmental regulations, and finds and cleans up spills/releases that can affect human health and the environment. These activities accelerate progress to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, ensure waters are fishable and swimmable, ensure Minnesotans have safe, abundant drinking water, ensure Minnesotans have clean air that meets standards and foster resilient communities. Additionally, the MPCA develops statewide policy, supports environmental education, and helps ensure pollution does not have a disproportionate impact on any individual or group of individuals living in Minnesota.

BUDGET



Source: Budget Planning & Analysis System (BPAS)



Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

**Note: The increase in spending for FY18-19 is due to a \$125 million legal expense for the East Metro 3M challenges.*

MPCA's budget is funded by multiple state government funds and federal grants. MPCA generally receives relatively few appropriations from the state general fund, apart from sizable one-time investments in FY 2024-2025. The bulk of the MPCA's funding comes from the environmental, remediation and petroleum funds, supplemented by the clean water fund.

STRATEGIES

In 2024, the MPCA updated its five-year strategic plan. The strategic plan charts the agency's direction and reflects insights gathered from external stakeholders and thoughtful review from agency staff and management. The MPCA will complete its work based on six (6) priority strategies outlined in its strategic plan:

- Reduce direct exposures to known pollutants, including their cumulative impacts
- Reduce levels of high-priority pollutants
- Advance environmental justice and protect Minnesotans who are disproportionately impacted
- Advance the Climate Action Framework
- Modernize capabilities to collect, manage, and share data
- Foster a diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace and throughout agency operations

Limiting pollution caused by businesses, organizations, and individuals is fundamental to MPCA's mission. The MPCA develops and enforces regulations and provides education and technical assistance to help meet these regulations. Increasingly, MPCA's focus is on preventing pollution rather than just controlling or cleaning it up.

MPCA works with many partners—citizens, communities, businesses, governments, environmental groups, and educators—to prevent pollution and conserve resources. These partnerships allow MPCA to:

- Foster greater commitment and personal responsibility for the environment
- Work to minimize the use and generation of toxic chemicals in products and materials
- Protect, restore, and preserve the quality of our waters
- Develop solutions to Minnesota's climate change challenges
- Prevent and correct disproportionate environmental impacts on communities

Minnesota is a national model for environmental protection. The state's air, land, and water are cleaner now than 50 years ago, even with a growing, diverse population and rising industrialization. However, the MPCA recognizes environmental improvements have not benefited all Minnesotans in the same way. The MPCA established an Environmental Justice Advisory Committee to provide feedback and suggest improvements to its environmental justice framework. The MPCA also emphasizes a goal of attracting and retaining a diverse and inclusive workforce that reflects the important perspectives of all Minnesotans in its daily work activities.

MPCA's range of activities includes:

- Testing and researching to identify environmental problems
- Setting standards and developing rules that protect people and the environment
- Writing permits to regulate activities that affect the environment (air emissions, toxic, or hazardous materials, water discharges, landfills, etc.)
- Ensuring compliance with and enforcing regulatory requirements to ensure equitable treatment and a level playing field for Minnesota businesses
- Integrating environmental justice principles into the agency's processes to ensure pollution does not disproportionately impact the health of low-income populations or people of color.
- Providing technical and financial assistance, training, outreach, and education to schools, local government officials, facility operators, permittees, and Minnesotans
- Managing contracts for equity, sustainability, and fiscal accountability

- Managing internal activities through proper control plans, risk management, and priorities
- Providing access to environmental data and regulatory services through data requests and online systems
- Publicizing and demonstrating pollution prevention techniques
- Responding to environmental spills, releases, and other environmental emergencies

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 114D (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=114D>), Chapter 115 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=115>), Chapter 115A (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=115A>), and Chapter 116 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=116>) provide the agency with its main authorities to provide regulatory, monitoring, and assistance services.

Program: Environmental Analysis and Outcomes Division<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/>**AT A GLANCE**

- Develop water quality standards and evaluate 80 major watersheds against those standards.
- Monitor and track air quality, surface water quality, and ambient groundwater conditions.
- Provide environmental data quality assurance and data management services for the agency.
- Provide resources to local water management organizations for lake and streams monitoring.
- Provide air quality forecasts for the state and eight Tribes, to inform public of unhealthy air quality days.
- Provide regulatory support for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Wastewater program, including setting pollutant discharge limits.
- Estimate and track pollutant emissions to air and discharges to water.
- Support climate action through interagency climate coordination and planning and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions tracking.
- Foster local climate action and community resilience through grantmaking and technical assistance

PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

The Environmental Analysis and Outcomes (EAO) Division monitors and evaluates the physical, chemical, and biological conditions of Minnesota's environment, identifies environmental threats and impacts to human and ecosystem health, establishes environmental goals and measures progress in achieving them, supports regulatory programs (such as permitting), ensures data quality and makes environmental data broadly accessible. The division's efforts support human health, aquatic life, community resilience, and a strong economy.

The division provides leadership to implement the federal Clean Air Act by monitoring and evaluating air quality conditions, supporting air quality permitting and environmental review, and assisting partner agencies with energy and transportation projects.

The division coordinates climate planning and accelerate progress on Minnesota's Climate Action Framework vision of carbon neutrality, resilience and equity.

The division helps implement the Clean Water Act and portions of Minnesota's Clean Water Legacy Act by monitoring surface water and groundwater resources, evaluating water quality data, communicating lake, stream, wetland, and groundwater conditions, and developing water quality standards that protect the health of water resources. Water data and assessment results support the development of permit limits to protect water quality and inform local planning, restoration, and protection activities.

SERVICES PROVIDED**Air Assessment**

- Monitors the air quality index and compliance with air quality standards and health benchmarks at 64 sites statewide.
- Supports community air monitoring, focusing on areas of concern for environmental justice.
- Provides technical assistance and quality assurance at seven locations operated by Tribal Governments, two federal PM2.5 speciation sites, one national multi-pollutant monitoring site, one ozone precursor measurements site, and six National Atmospheric Deposition Program sites.

- Forecasts air quality, issues air quality alerts, and works with partners to communicate on bad air quality days so Minnesotans can take action to protect their health.
 - Collects and analyzes annual air emission inventories for more than 2,200 companies.
 - Estimates statewide emissions from all sources every three years.
 - Supports facility air dispersion modeling to estimate compliance with standards and estimate risk from facilities for permitting, compliance and enforcement, and environmental review.
 - Estimates and analyzes public health risks from air pollution, with a focus on potential disproportionate impacts on the most vulnerable Minnesotans.
- Prepares state implementation plans and ensures program compliance with federal and state requirements.

Water Monitoring and Assessment

- Develops water quality standards and uses other tools to protect human health and aquatic life.
- Monitors lakes, streams, and rivers to determine condition and trends.
- Monitors wetlands and groundwater to identify water quality trends.
- Gathers and reviews data to understand water condition and identify causes of stress on a water body.
- Tracks the effectiveness of protection and restoration activities.
- Tracks impacts of climate change on lakes and streams.
- Engages volunteers in monitoring lakes and streams amplifying the data available to understand waterbodies in Minnesota.
- Monitors nitrate with continuous sensors with historically high nitrate loads to understand dynamics and share impacts of land use decisions in real time.
- Provides funding opportunities and technical assistance for local units of government to conduct water monitoring.
- Analyzes water quality data and develops pollutant discharge limits for industrial and municipal wastewater permits.
- Provides information and assistance to regulated facilities, communities, local governments, and Minnesotans.
- Monitors, studies, and coordinates work on contaminants in Minnesota's water and fish, including accumulative contaminants like mercury and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), and emerging contaminants like pharmaceuticals and consumer products.

Climate

- Gathers and reports on data on GHG emissions in Minnesota.
- Coordinates state climate planning across the 17 agencies of the Climate Change Subcabinet.
- Awards and manages climate resilience, climate planning and action, and GHG mitigation grants to communities and organizations across the state.
- Provides technical assistance to communities to prepare for and respond to climate change.
- Conducts periodic in-depth assessments of climate mitigation and resilience issues.

Environmental Data Quality

- Provides quality assurance oversight for MPCA programs collecting environmental data.
- Coordinates the Wastewater Laboratory Certification Program and administers laboratory certification for 42 labs.
- Coordinates the facility monitoring program for air permit facilities that are monitoring ambient air for permit compliance.
- Manages an environmental database that is used by four agencies to store monitoring data.
- Loads laboratory and quality control data for water monitoring programs that are used for assessments, limits, and trends.

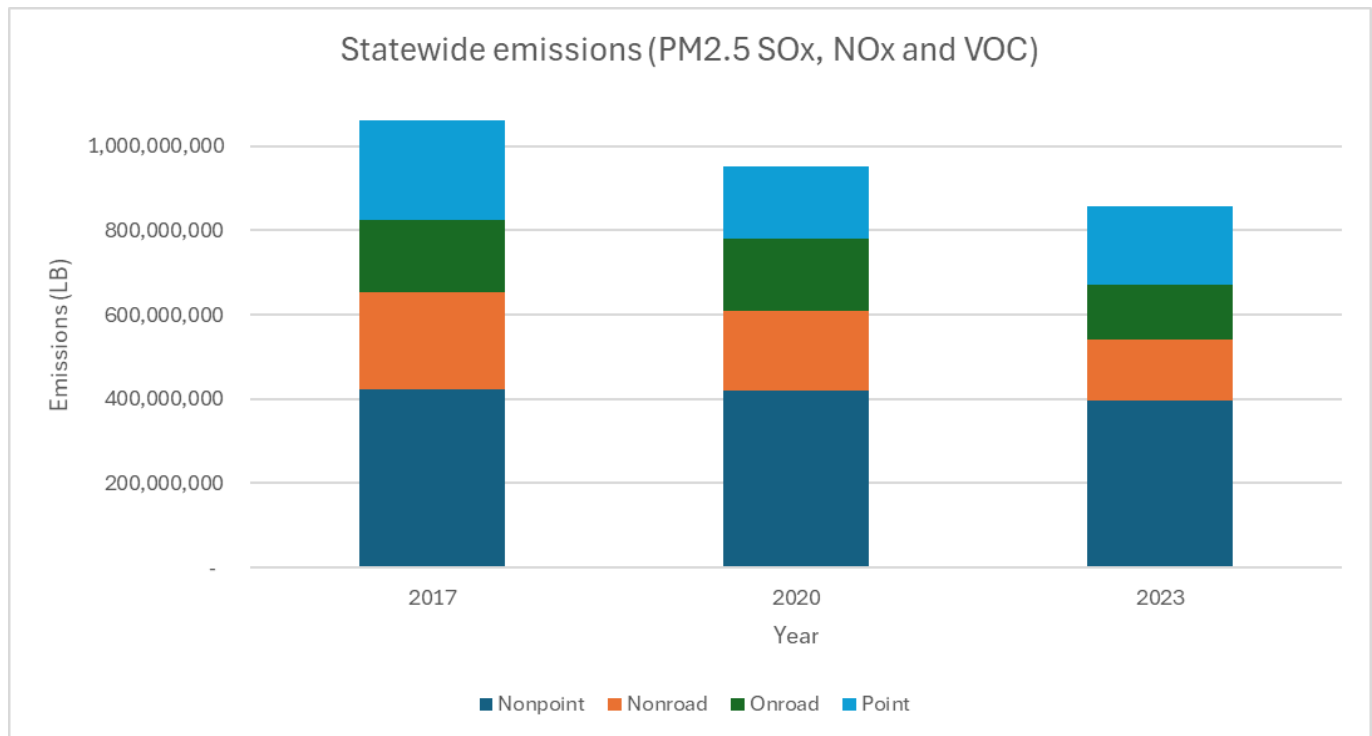
RESULTS PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Part A: Performance Data

Air emissions from different types of sources

Air emissions are the quantity of air pollutants that are released from an air pollution source. Over time, air emissions are on a downward trend in Minnesota. In 2023, the percentages of overall emissions from each source type were:

- On-road vehicles (cars, trucks) 14%
- Non-permitted sources (small businesses, heating, wood smoke) 50%
- Off-road vehicles (construction and agriculture) 16%
- Permitted sources (power plants, factories) 20%



Aggregate emissions: Nitrogen oxides (NO_x), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), volatile organic compounds (VOC), particulate matter (PM_{2.5})

Surface water protection and restoration

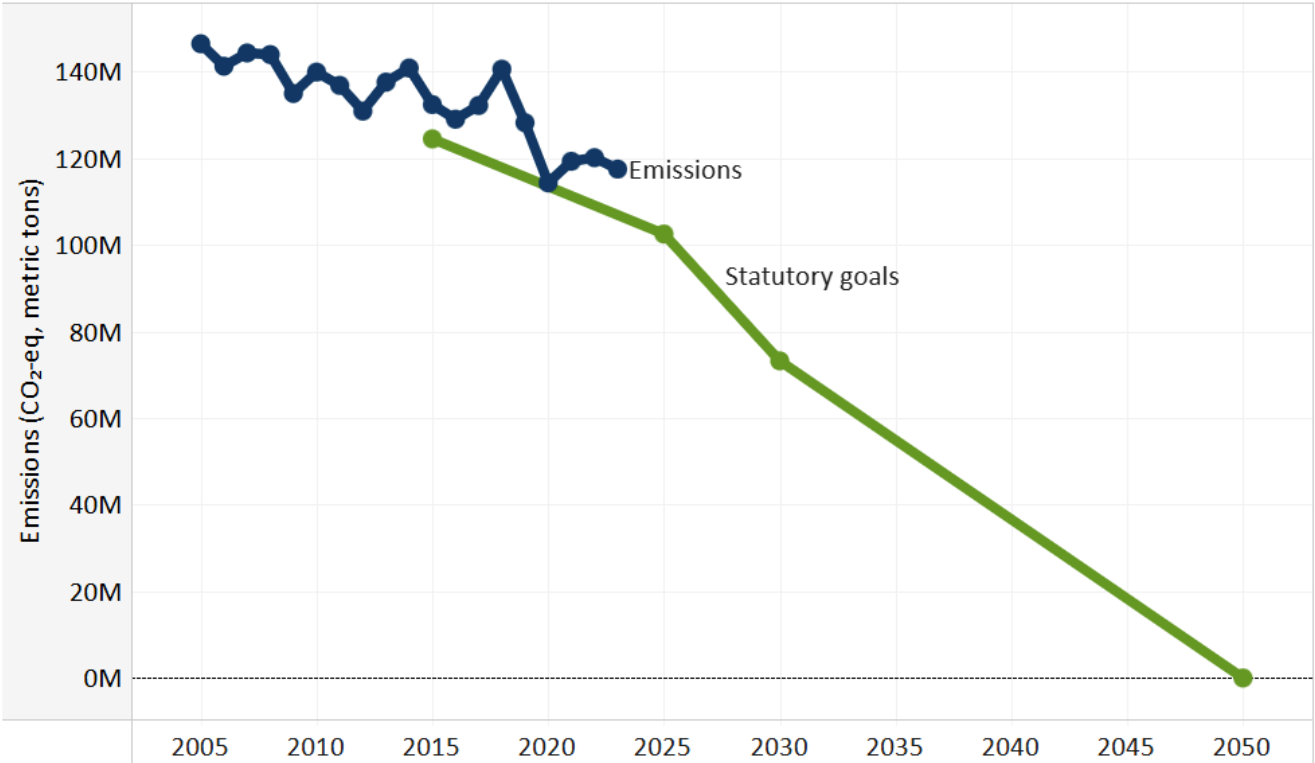
During the last 10 years, the MPCA has increased water monitoring efforts and completed assessments across the entire state. The information is used to determine if watersheds are meeting water quality standards to protect public health, recreational use, and aquatic life.

In general, 60 percent of state lakes and streams meet water quality standards; however, there are wide variations in condition by watershed. All of Minnesota's 80 watersheds have been monitored and assessed, and this work continues into a second monitoring cycle across the state. A third cycle will begin in 2028. The current focus is on measuring progress and, where needed, incorporating monitoring to understand new pollutants of concern.

Greenhouse Gas emissions in Minnesota

The EAO Division estimates GHG emissions from all sources in Minnesota to track progress against Minnesota’s statutory GHG emissions reduction goals. The analysis allows the EAO Division to support the Governor’s Climate Change Subcabinet and Advisory Council to identify effective and cost-efficient emission reduction strategies.

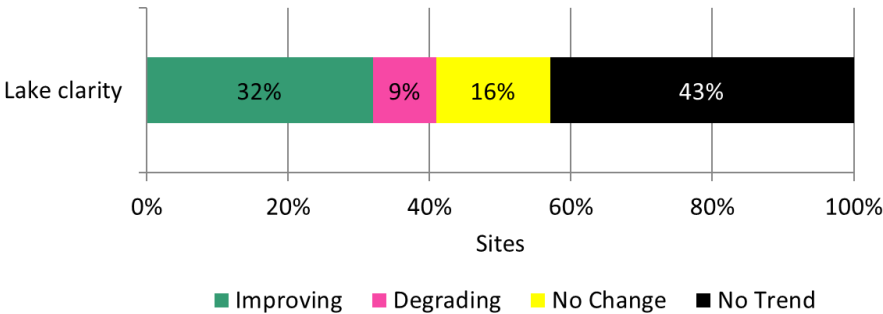
The division completes a report on GHG emissions every other year; the next is due January 15, 2027. This report will contain the most up-to-date estimates for greenhouse gas emissions through 2024. Between 2005 to 2023, annual GHG emissions in Minnesota decreased 19.8%.



Total statewide GHG emissions compared to statutory goals, 2005 to 2023

Percent of lakes getting clearer

Hundreds of volunteers across the state help the MPCA measure water clarity in all Minnesota counties. The data demonstrates that water clarity is improving or holding steady in 91 percent of our lakes.



Part B: Evidence of Effectiveness

No evidence-based practices identified.

Minnesota Statutes, Chapters, 115 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=115>), 115A (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=115A>), and 116 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=116>) provide the agency with its main authorities to provide regulatory, monitoring, and assistance services.

Minnesota Statutes section 114D.25 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/114D.25>), “identify impaired waters and propose a list of the waters for review and approval by the United States Environmental Protection Agency;” and “3) propose to delist waters from the Environmental Protection Agency impaired waters list.”

Section 305(b) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), states, territories, and tribes must assess waters every two years to determine whether they are meeting water quality standards (WQS). States issue a biennial 305(b) report that includes results from these assessments and explanation of assessment methodologies and data collection processes. [440 CFR 130.4](#) and [40 CFR 130.8 -- Water quality report](#).

Minnesota Statutes section 216H.021 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/216H.021>) Requires MPCA to “establish a system for reporting and maintaining an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions.” Minnesota Statutes section 216H.07 subd 3 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/216H.07>) requires MPCA to work with the Department of Commerce to submit a report on Minnesota’s GHG emissions by January 15 of odd-numbered years showing the progress Minnesota has made in achieving the goals in 216H.02.

Minnesota Statutes section 116.391 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/116.391>) directs the MPCA commissioner to establish a resilient communities assistance program.

Program: Industrial Division<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/>**AT A GLANCE**

The Industrial Division provides regulatory services (permitting, technical assistance, training, compliance determination, enforcement, licensing, and certification) for approximately:

- 4,500 industrial wastewater and stormwater sources
- 2,000 air emission sources
- 10,400 underground fuel storage tank facilities
- 24,500 hazardous waste generators

PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

The Industrial Division engages with regulated parties to manage emissions, discharges, and wastes to minimize impacts to human health, the environment, and climate change. We implement a set of core regulatory programs that ensure Minnesota's outdoor air is healthy for all to breathe, and waters are swimmable, fishable, and safe to drink. The Industrial Division enforces state and federal environmental regulations so that Minnesota reduces its contribution to regional, national, and global pollution. Compliance assistance is provided to pollution sources, and we respond to citizen complaints. Our efforts support public health and improve the environment while contributing to strong economies in Minnesota communities. The Industrial Division administers regulatory programs in support of the MPCA's strategic goal to advance environmental justice and protect Minnesotans who are disproportionately impacted by environmental emissions.

The MPCA is authorized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to administer the air quality regulatory programs under the federal Clean Air Act. About 2,000 air emission facilities are managed in the program. These programs use state and federal regulations, best management practices, technology, and site-specific determinations to control sources of air pollution. The division's work to regulate air pollution from facilities that need an air quality permit has resulted in a significant reduction in emissions from these sources and has contributed to the attainment of ambient air quality standards in the state.

The MPCA is also authorized by the EPA to administer the wastewater regulatory program under the federal Clean Water Act. Over 900 industrial wastewater dischargers are managed in the program in addition to approximately 3,500 businesses through the industrial stormwater program. These programs use best management practices, technology, and site-based standards to protect water resources.

The division works with a large and diverse group of private businesses, industry consultants, local, state and federal partners, environmental groups, and people living in the state.

SERVICES PROVIDED

The services the division provides fall into four categories:

Permitting

- Issue air and water permits that meet state and federal requirements to operate or expand existing facilities and to build new industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities.
- Better connect the public, industry, and local governments by providing input opportunities on permits through community engagement, public notices, and local meetings.
- Reduce the burden on regulated parties by providing assistance, flexibility, and permitting options.

Compliance determination, assistance, and enforcement

- Conduct inspections and determine compliance with air quality, water quality, hazardous waste, stormwater, and underground fuel storage tank rules, regulations, and permits.
- Provide technical assistance and training to regulated facilities.
- Take enforcement action when warranted.

Licensing and certification

- Issue licenses for hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities.
- License hazardous waste haulers and monitor the movement of hazardous waste.
- Certify over 10,000 underground fuel tanks.

RESULTS

Part A: Performance Data

The MPCA made a commitment with EPA to look for ways to increase resources assigned to our priority permits. In 2025, the air permitting program spent additional time focused on permitting applications that have been backlogged, starting with the oldest permits. The air permitting program has consistently reduced the Title V permit application backlog over the last five years, and now, the air program is expanding those efforts to reduce all backlogged permit applications. The backlog of Title V reissuance applications decreased from around 45% in July 2025 to 29% at the end of the fiscal year on July 1, 2026. In addition, the overall backlog of all air permit applications dropped below 30%. Air permitting continues to work to reduce the backlog, but significant progress has been made.

The MPCA has worked hard to speed up the permitting process without compromising the environment. In 2025, we met our timeliness goals 99% of the time for priority permits, which are construction focused and have the most bearing on job and growth. Non-priority permits include reissuance of an existing permit with no substantive change. While 64% of those permits met timeliness goals, we know more work is needed. We are committed to identifying how improvements can be made to get closer to 90%. For all permits, we met our timeliness goals 95% of the time.

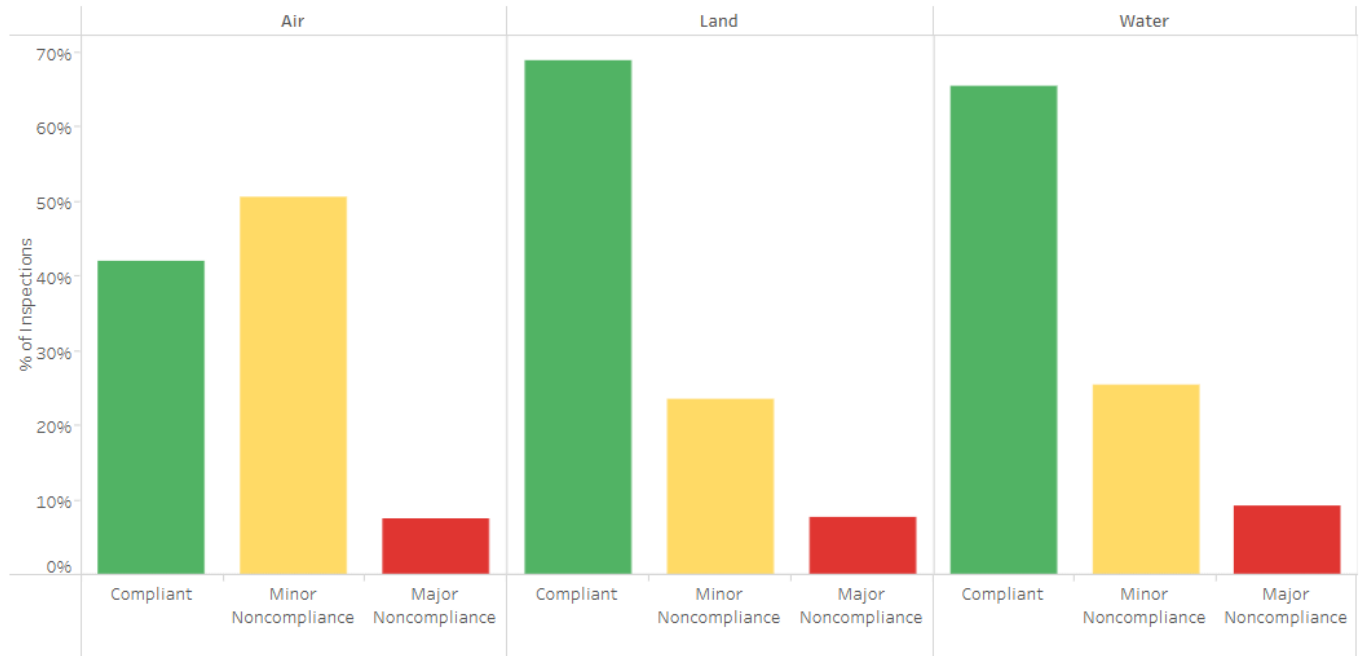
Timeliness Summary

Current review period: July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Priority permits that met goal	97%	94%	97%	99%	98%	98%	99%	98%	98%	99%
Non-priority permits that met goal	40%	46%	63%	61%	92%	83%	46%	76%	67%	64%
All permits that met goal	74%	87%	93%	93%	96%	96%	89%	91%	95%	95%

Issuing permits is only part of what the MPCA does to protect our environment. We also provide assistance, conduct inspections, and enforce standards to improve compliance. In federal FY26, 91% of inspections had no major non-compliance. The chart below shows overall compliance from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

Overall compliance by media



	Air		Land		Water		Grand Total	
Overall Compliance Rating	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Compliant	79	42%	961	69%	1,592	65%	2,632	65%
Minor Noncompliance	95	51%	328	23%	619	25%	1,042	26%
Major Noncompliance	14	7%	107	8%	225	9%	346	9%
Grand Total	188	100%	1,396	100%	2,436	100%	4,020	100%

Part B: Evidence of Effectiveness

No evidence-based practices identified.

Minnesota Statutes, Chapters, 115 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=115>), 115A (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=115A>), and 116 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=116>) provide the agency with its main authorities to provide regulatory, monitoring, and assistance services.

Program: Municipal Division<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/>**AT A GLANCE**

- 62 individual municipal wastewater permits issued.
- 2,757 construction stormwater permits issued.
- 228 municipalities operated under municipal stormwater permit coverage.
- 44 sub-surface sewage treatment systems compliance and enforcement actions taken.
- 289 construction stormwater compliance and enforcement actions taken.
- 17 municipal stormwater compliance and enforcement actions taken.
- 148 municipal wastewater compliance and enforcement actions taken.
- 140 grants totaling \$3.4 million awarded to local partners for Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) grants.
- 42 grants totaling \$2.1 million awarded to municipalities and industries for Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) source identification and reduction.
- 9 grants totaling \$2.7 million awarded to municipalities and industries to support PFAS treatment.
- \$1 million from the Overflow Sewer Grant program awarded to Reading to build a community wastewater treatment system.

PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

The Municipal Division works to ensure all Minnesotans and the environment are healthy. The work of the division ensures that Minnesota has clean water to support aquatic life, clean drinking water, healthy communities, and a strong economy. Components of the program include:

- Working to fulfill the agency's mission to protect human health and the environment by reducing and preventing water pollution from wastewater, stormwater, and sub-surface sewage treatment systems (SSTS).
- Working cooperatively with stakeholders to implement activities that protect all Minnesota waters and citizens.
- Providing financial assistance to local government and other partners to achieve and accelerate water quality improvements.

SERVICES PROVIDED

The Municipal Division conducts activities to ensure the state's lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater are clean, healthy, and sustainable. To accomplish this, the division:

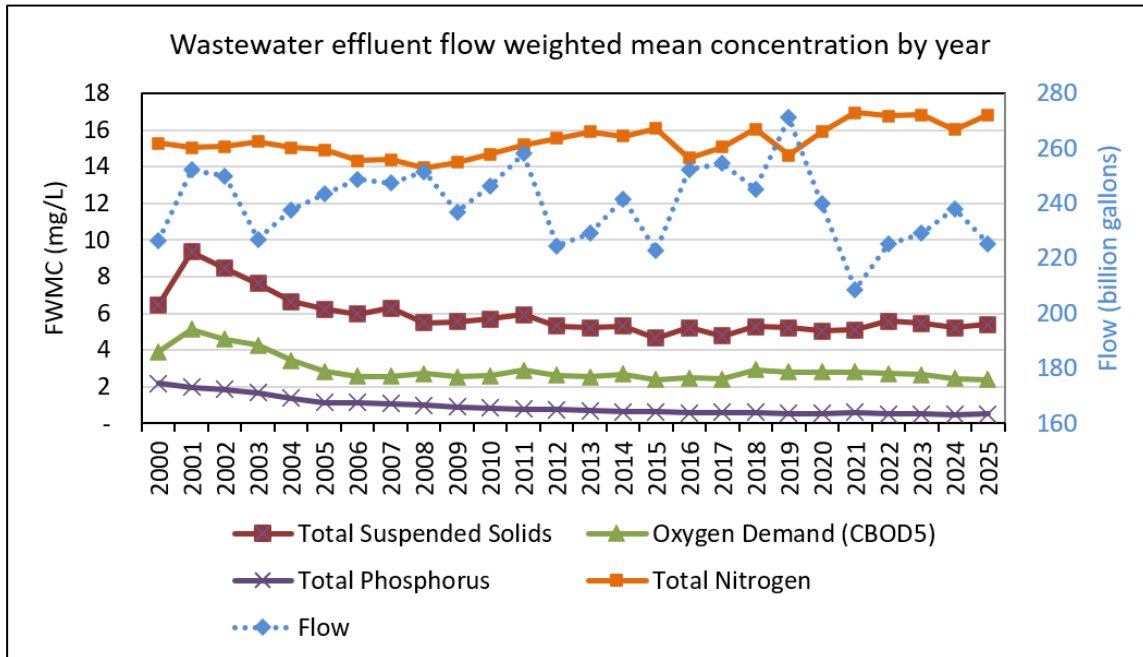
- Issues construction and operation permits to Minnesota businesses and municipalities.
- Implements the biosolids land application and pretreatment programs.
- Assists in flood and spill response.
- Inspects, assists, and enforces regulations for wastewater treatment plants, stormwater systems, and SSTS.
- Educates, licenses, and certifies wastewater and SSTS professionals.
- Addresses imminent health threats from SSTS, particularly for low-income households.
- Provides grants and contracts for water quality improvement SSTS projects.
- Conducts technical reviews and prioritizes infrastructure projects for the Public Facilities Authority funding program.

RESULTS

Part A: Performance Data

Municipal Wastewater

Since 2000, pollutant load discharges from municipal wastewater plants have decreased for all parameters except nitrogen. This decrease is due to the agency's work developing permit limits that achieve water quality goals. In April 2024, the program finalized and began implementing a Wastewater Nitrate Reduction Strategy to make progress in reducing the nitrate discharges from the wastewater sector. The program continues to work with the sector to characterize and make reductions to the amount of PFAS discharged from wastewater systems. The program continues to seek opportunities to reduce pollutants in wastewater discharges.

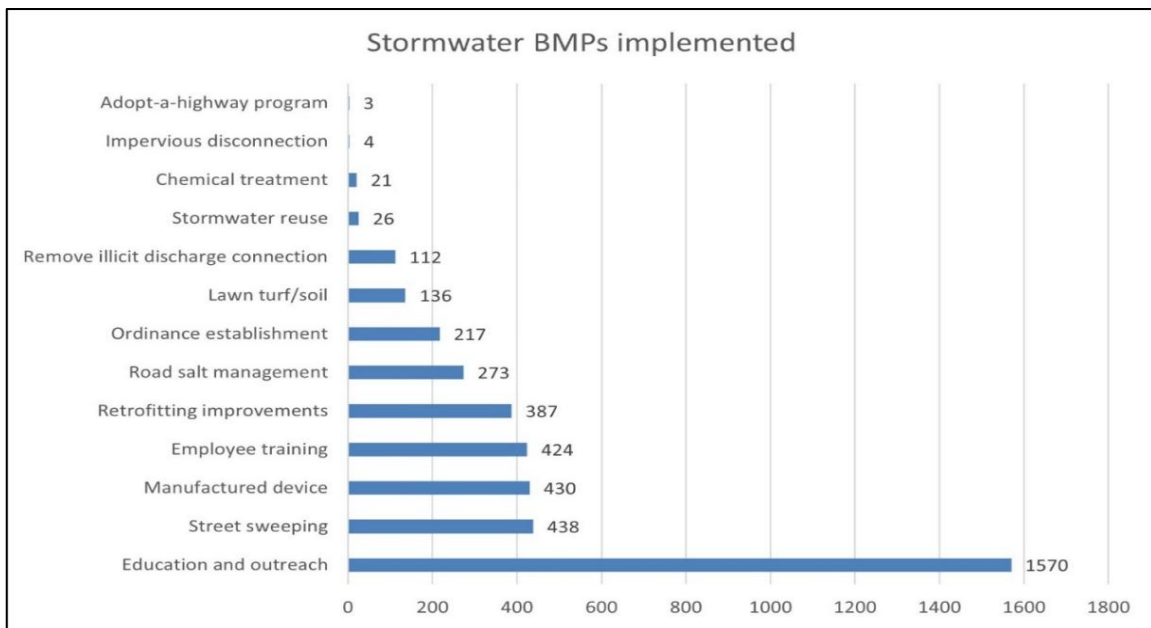


Graph 1: Wastewater effluent flow

The Municipal Division has worked to reduce the number of expired municipal wastewater permits. By the end of FY26, 75% of municipal wastewater permits were current (not expired). The division is committed to finding efficiencies in our permitting process, removing barriers that slow permit issuance, and delivering excellent services including timely permits.

Municipal Stormwater

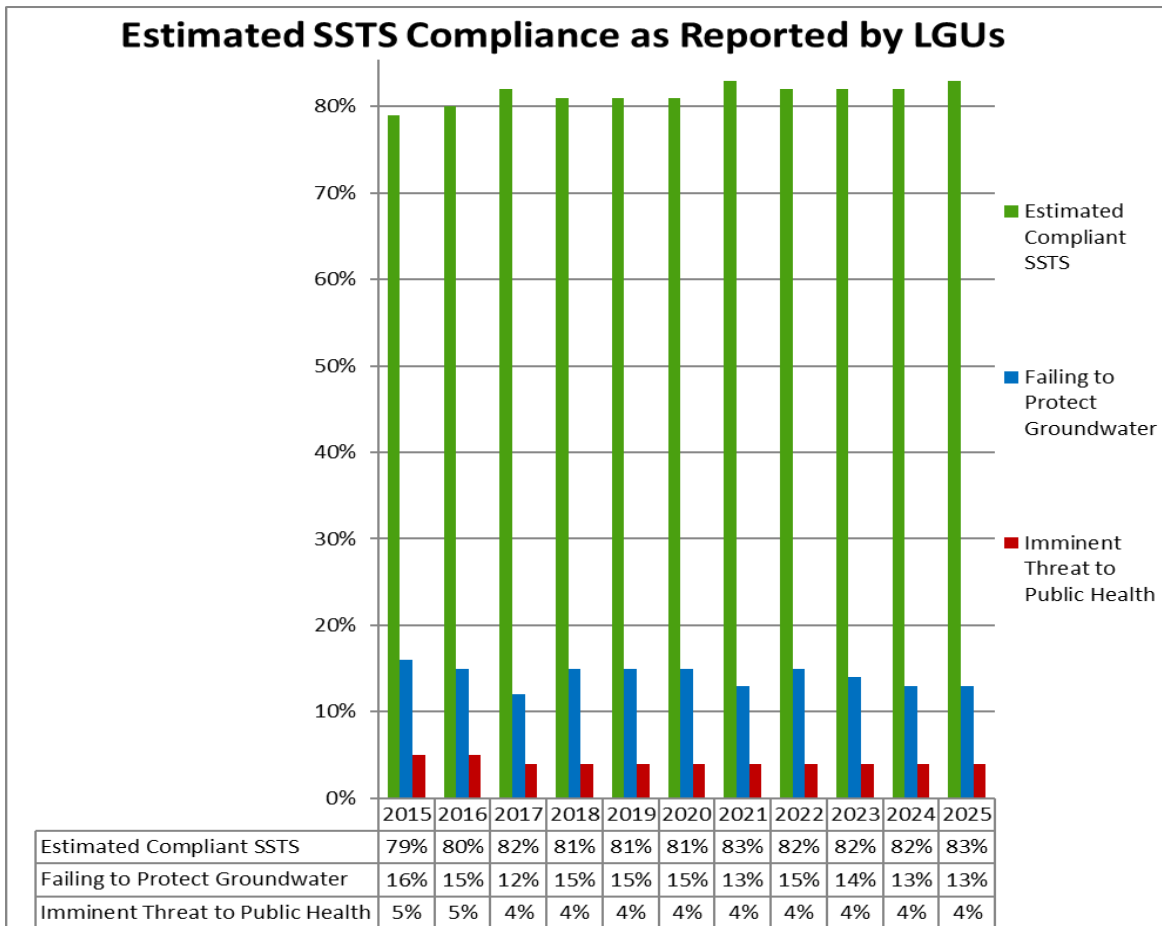
Since 2015, cities have used best management practices (BMPs) to help to achieve reductions in pollutants. Table 2 below shows the various types of practices that have been implemented by regulated municipal stormwater permittees to reduce pollution being transported to lakes, rivers and streams. Thousands of practices have been installed and implemented in response to stormwater regulations.



Graph 2: Stormwater BMPs implemented

Sub-surface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS)

Compliance rates increased over the last 10 years but have remained relatively steady for the past three years.



Graph 3: Estimated SSTS Compliance

Part B: Evidence of Effectiveness

No evidence-based practices identified.

Minnesota Statutes, Chapters, 115 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=115>), 115A (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=115A>), and 116 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=116>) provide the agency with its main authorities to provide regulatory, monitoring and assistance services.

Program: Operations Division<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/>**AT A GLANCE**

- Provide public access to environmental data and information through the “What’s in My Neighborhood” web application for 199,021 sites in Minnesota.
- Received the Governor’s Silver Achievement Safety Award for 2025.
- Triaged 4,630 emergency notifications, and responded to 2,732 spills in Fiscal Year 2026.
- Processed 22,156 data and information requests in FY25-26, an increase of 28% over the previous two years.
- Reduced vehicle fuel consumption by 31% from the 2017 baseline by converting fleet of vehicles to electric or high fuel-efficient vehicles and promoting hybrid meetings.
- Reduced non-recycled, non-recyclable solid waste from the 2017 baseline of 118,142 pounds per year to 33,581 pounds.
- Became first state agency to be recognized by the National Weather Service as a StormReady entity as part of the Weather-Ready Nation designation.
- Reduced agency’s greenhouse gas emissions from the 2017 baseline by 65%.
- Responded to 210 media inquiries.
- Had 8.3 million social media views across our platforms in FY26.
- Supported multiple air quality alerts with communications needs.

PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Operations Division manages the agency’s business services in alignment with the MPCA’s mission and values.

- It sustains the agency’s environmental work by managing fiscal services, internal controls and risk assessment, human resources, communications, organizational improvement, project management, facilities management, data systems and online services, data analysis, document and records management, safety and emergency management, and non-litigation legal support.
- It promotes performance excellence by seeking new or improved ways of delivering agency services, data, and information.
- It enhances cost effective and sustainable business practices by reducing agency fuel consumption, purchasing recycled and environmentally preferred products, strengthening agency-wide recycling efforts, and reducing travel through use of web conferencing technology.
- It develops a thriving workforce by promoting an agency culture that values diversity, inclusion, and equity centric practices.
- It protects the environment by cleaning up spills or leaks that can affect health and the environment.
- It promotes equity and inclusion by assisting MPCA programs in implementing environmental justice principles to ensure pollution does not have disproportionate negative impacts on any group of people.

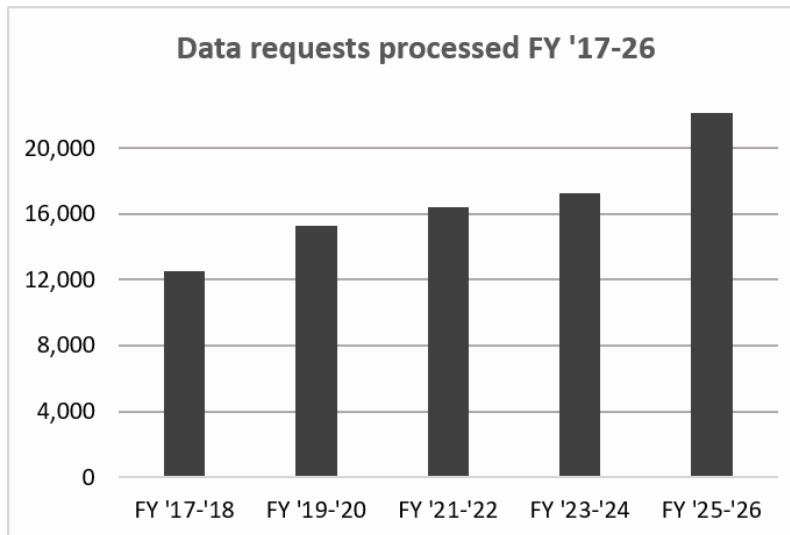
SERVICES PROVIDED

- Provides leadership and guidance on financial matters, performing accounting, budgeting, contracting, and procurement business functions.
- Enhances compliance and operational efficiency by conducting annual internal control certifications, comprehensive audits, advisory services, special reviews, and risk mitigation, ensuring processes are effective and risks are properly managed.
- Manages agency data and records (paper and electronic), and ensures effective, secure, and efficient data and document management systems and tools.
- Provides project management expertise for the MPCA's portfolio of strategic project initiatives and the agency's strategic plan.
- Ensures public access to environmental information and decision-making processes through its website, social media channels, public meetings, outreach, rule hearings, video conferencing, and training events.
- Provides location-specific environmental information and data via the "What's in My Neighborhood" feature at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/data/whats-my-neighborhood>.
- Manages human resources through workforce planning, job design and analysis, recruitment and selection, employee relations, compliance with employment law and collective bargaining agreements, employee benefits, training and development.
- Uses the Malcolm Baldrige Performance Excellence System framework to identify and prioritize organizational improvement opportunities.
- Manages agency-wide services including facilities management, safety, continuity of operations planning, mobile device management, lease administration, space planning, copy and print services, security access system, and fleet management.
- Develops and enhances user-friendly electronic web-based services to create process efficiencies, improve data quality, accessibility and usability, and reduce paper transactions.
- Oversees the cleanup of contaminated land, groundwater and surface water. Works with railroads, pipelines, industry, and local government to improve their preparedness and response to spills. In the event of a spill, assists local responders and oversees cleanup.
- Assists the agency in the implementation of the Equity Change Plan, Environmental Justice Framework, Affirmative Action Plan, Engagement Plan, and Climate Action Framework.
- Highlights the work of the agency to protect human health and the environment by proactively telling the agency's story and responding to requests for information.

RESULTS

Part A: Performance Data

Data Services: Data practices and information requests allow for timely property redevelopment or construction. Over half (55%) of requests are for petroleum, leaks, tanks and environmental review documents, and over a third (40%) are for solid waste, hazardous waste, and superfund documents.



Online Services: The MPCA’s online services have steadily increased since FY14-15. The MPCA’s online services feature allows users to apply for permits, close out permitted sites, submit regulatory data and information for compliance requirements, and pay fees and invoices. While 174 online services have been successfully developed and implemented, over 200 known additional online services need to be developed and implemented. As the result of the online services, the MPCA conducts over 35,000 transactions a year electronically. Additionally, the MPCA has obtained a tool to receive direct feedback from users on the usability of each service and suggestions for improvement. This feedback will be used to improve systems and prioritize new development efforts.

	FY 14-15	FY 16-17	FY 18-19	FY 20-21	FY 22-23	FY 24-25	FY 26
Number of online services	10	20	70	123	167	172	230

Communications: In FY26, the Communications section leveraged its staff and leadership expertise in social, online and mainstream media platforms to effectively tell the story of the agency and provide Minnesotans with information that helps protect human health and the environment. While these are preliminary numbers, in FY26 the Communications team:

- Responded to and managed 210 media inquiries.
- Attracted 8.3 million social media views across our platforms.
- In FY26, the Communications section, like many other entities, began moving away from X (Twitter) to other platforms for both reach and messaging opportunities.
- Saw an average of 199,083 unique visitors to our website each quarter.
- Unique visits are tied to IP addresses. Someone may visit the page or site more than once but is only counted as one unique visitor.
- Had a 91.1 percent open rate on our internal employee newsletter.
 - A “good” open rate in communications is considered to be about 40 percent.
- Staffed or supported 56 public meetings.
- Ensured prompt and accessible safety information for air quality alerts.
- Between July and August 2025, 14,323 unique visits to our AQI pages.
- Recorded 1.7 million views on one social platform for one AQI alert.

Part B: Evidence of Effectiveness

No evidence-based practices identified.

Minnesota Statutes, Chapters 114D (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/114D>), 115 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/115>), 115A (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/115A>), 115C (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2019/cite/115C>), 116 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2019/cite/116>) provide the agency with its main authorities to provide regulatory, monitoring, and assistance services.

Program: Remediation Division<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/>**AT A GLANCE**

- The MPCA's remediation programs assess approximately 330 superfund and 900 petroleum leak sites per year.
- Between 2017 and 2025, over 2 million cubic yards of contaminated sediments have been remediated on the Minnesota side of the St. Louis River, and over 1 million cubic yards of clean sediment sourced from the Duluth/Superior harbor were beneficially used on projects, reducing both costs and environmental impacts.
- In 2025, 3,358 acres at 123 sites returned to productive use through the brownfields program.
- The Closed Landfill Program manages care and maintenance of 112 closed landfills in Minnesota.

PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

The Remediation Division protects the environment and public health by managing risks at contaminated sites through site assessment, site cleanup, ongoing operation and maintenance of protection systems, and restoring contaminated land to productive use.

The division works with a large and diverse group of public and private entities, including property owners and developers, counties and cities, industry consultants, state and federal partners, tribal nations, and residents.

SERVICES PROVIDED

The division works with public and private partners to ensure the proper management and cleanup of contaminated sites, which include petroleum tank leak sites, site assessment and superfund sites, brownfield sites, and closed landfills. Cleaning up contaminated land and groundwater is the core activity of this division.

Division services fall into three categories: assessment of risk, cleanup of contaminated land and/or groundwater, and long-term maintenance of implemented remedies and/or installed protection systems.

Assessment of risk

- Identify and investigate environmental releases of hazardous substances and petroleum to determine extent, magnitude, and risk to public health and the environment.
- Provide technical support to hazardous waste enforcement, permitting, and corrective action efforts.
- Identify risk to proposed property developments on contaminated sites and work with developers to mitigate risk.
- Assist other agencies with assessment of natural resource damages.

Cleanup

- Oversee land cleanup at contaminated sites and recover costs from responsible parties.
- Conduct cleanups and design and install protection systems at state-funded superfund and petroleum sites.
- Help developers return contaminated sites to productive use.

Long-term maintenance

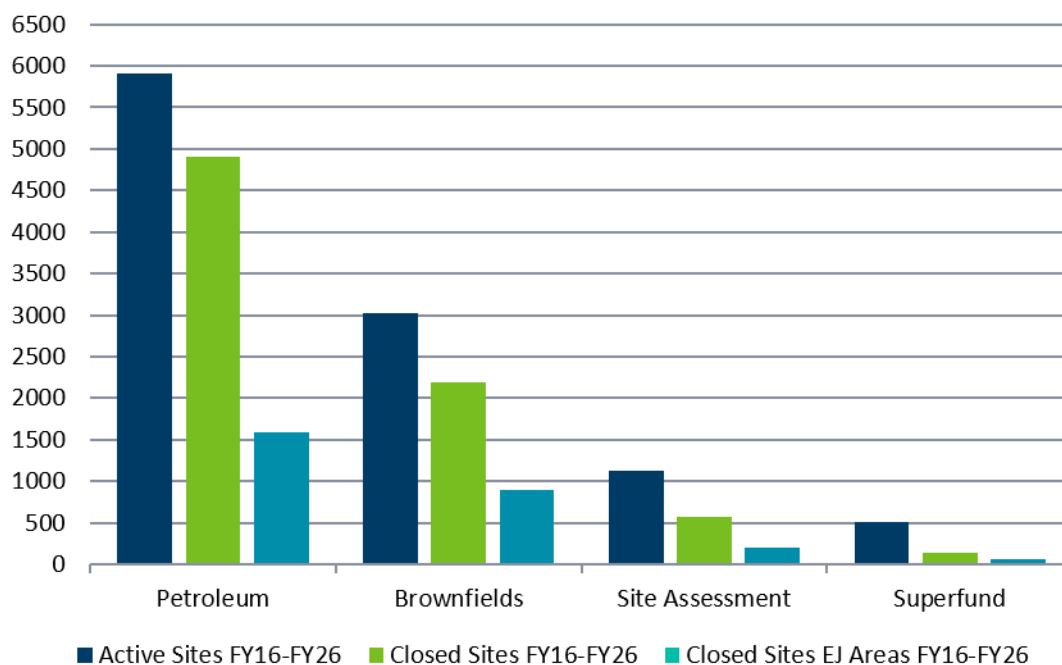
- Monitor and manage operation and maintenance activities at 112 closed landfills.
- Work with local governments on land use restrictions near sites.
- Manage and treat individual properties for drinking water or vapor concerns related to contaminated sites.

RESULTS

Part A: Performance Data

The MPCA cleans up and puts abandoned, idled, or underused industrial and commercial properties back into productive use. This benefits a community by addressing public health threats, increasing the tax base, and creating jobs. The chart below displays the number of active sites by program, the number of sites closed by program, and a subset of the closed sites that are within an environmental justice area.

Active and Closed Sites in Remediation



At sites where contamination is in the process of being assessed or where contamination remains due to technical limitations/feasibility of cleaning it all up, the remediation programs ensure human health, and the environment are protected by implementing a number of different protections/controls.

Part B: Evidence of Effectiveness

No evidence-based practices identified.

Minnesota Statutes, Chapters 114D (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/114D>), 115 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/115>), 115A (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/115A>), 115C (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2019/cite/115C>), 116 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2019/cite/116>) and 116B (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2019/cite/116B>) provide the agency with its main authorities to provide regulatory, monitoring, and assistance services.

Program: Resource Management and Assistance Division<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/>**AT A GLANCE**

- Award millions of dollars in grants and loans each biennium to promote environmentally innovative projects that reduce, reuse, and recycle waste and prevent pollution.
- Test over 250 products each year for banned materials including lead, cadmium, and PFAS.
- Conduct approximately 200 compliance inspections annually of asbestos and solid waste facilities.
- Educate over 250,000 individuals on environmental issues annually through the We are Water traveling exhibit, EcoExperience at the Minnesota State Fair, Get the Lead Out program, and other outreach efforts.

PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

The Resource Management and Assistance Division advances actions that improve Minnesota's environment through prevention, assistance, policy development, and regulation. The division supports the agency's land, water, and air regulatory and assistance programs, promotes prevention and sustainability, and provides financial assistance through various grant and loan programs. Many of the programs are designed to have a "cross-media" impact that benefits land, air, and water, as well as providing education and outreach on environmental topics. Rulemaking and environmental review support agency-wide priorities and activities. The land program protects the environment and public health by permitting solid and hazardous waste facilities and large tank sites, along with supporting a sustainable materials management framework. The water activities include review of projects proposed for federal permits or licenses to protect state water quality, and work with a diverse group of public and private entities and citizens to reduce the impacts products or production activities have on water. The Non-Point Air Program works with many partners to improve air quality. Nearly 75 percent of air pollution is released from sources not traditionally regulated by the MPCA, such as cars, trucks, construction equipment, and some commercial operations.

SERVICES PROVIDED

To accomplish its purpose, the Resource Management and Assistance Division:

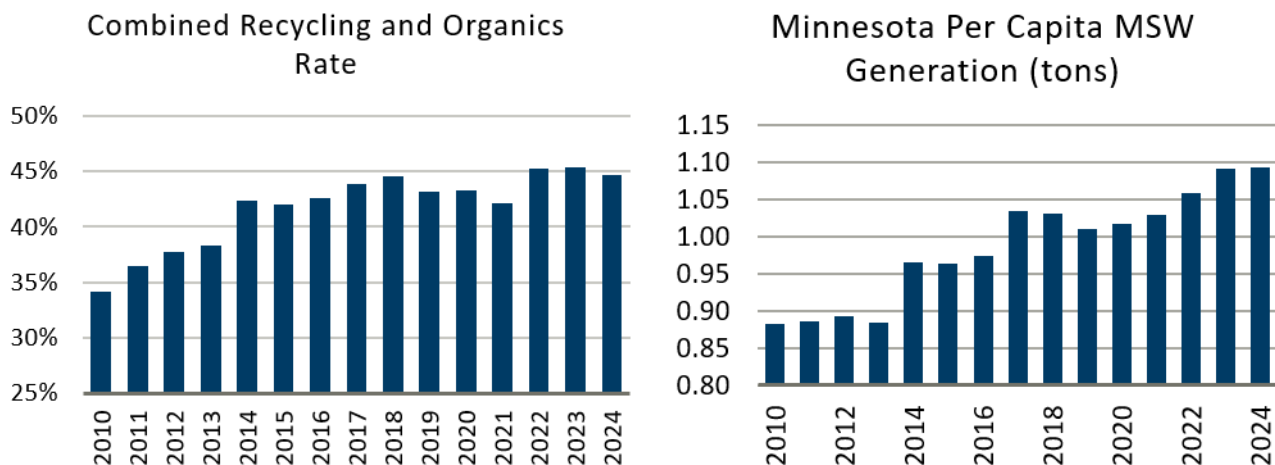
- Conducts environmental review to reduce potentially negative impacts from proposed projects.
- Writes administrative and technical rules with engagement from stakeholders.
- Works collaboratively with communities in environmental justice areas to reduce environmental impacts.
- Manages Section 401 water quality certifications to ensure that federally permitted/licensed projects do not violate state water quality standards.
 - Oversees product stewardship programs and encourages manufacturers, retailers, and consumers to treat products as resources rather than waste, changing how they think about the products they make, buy, and use.
- Works with local government to develop effective solid waste management plans and provides financial assistance to counties for sustainable materials and waste management efforts.
 - Conducts solid waste, hazardous waste, and above-ground storage tank permitting, inspections, and enforcement.
- Oversees disposal of debris from natural disasters and other incidents and supports local jurisdictions in debris management.

- Provides communities and businesses with technical and financial assistance with regulatory compliance, pollution and waste prevention, air quality improvements, and sustainability efforts.
- Provides grants to reduce diesel emissions from trucks, buses, boats, and other engines and equipment.
- Administers the Volkswagen Settlement funds to help clean up air pollution and invest in cleaner transportation that includes expanding the state's electric vehicle charging station network.
- Partners with other organizations to host the Eco Experience at the Minnesota State Fair.
- Assists communities through GreenStep Cities and Minnesota GreenCorps programs.
- Works with businesses to develop alternative products that are free of toxic chemicals.
- Collaborates with other state agencies to increase procurement of environmentally preferable products and services.

RESULTS

Part A: Performance Data

The MPCA annually collects data to track progress on solid waste management and annually publishes a report on the Select Committee on Recycling and the Environment (SCORE) activities summarizing the information submitted by all 87 Minnesota counties and the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District. Source reduction and recycling are the preferred methods for managing solid waste. As seen below, per capita generation decreased during the 2008 recession but has increased and surpassed pre-2008 levels since. Recycling rates have increased since 2005. In 2024, approximately 2 million tons of material was recycled, 2.3 million landfilled, 1.1 million used for energy, and nearly 800k composted as organics. More detailed information regarding solid waste management can be found at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/air-water-land-climate/understanding-solid-waste>.



Part B: Evidence of Effectiveness

No evidence-based practices identified.

M.S. Chapters 114D (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=114D>), 115 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=115>), 115A (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=115A>) and 116 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=116>).

Program: Watershed Division<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/feedlots><https://www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/watershed-information>**AT A GLANCE**

- Update watershed restoration and protection science and strategies with local water resource managers for Minnesota's 80 major watersheds to ensure most efficient implementation actions are taken.
- In partnership with 50 counties, register or permit, assist, and inspect the state's approximately 17,500 feedlot operations; approximately 1,100 of these feedlots are permitted by the MPCA, and there are about 3,600 additional registered sites for which the MPCA has direct regulatory responsibility.
- The Clean Water Partnership Loan Program awarded \$9.9 million in low interest loans to 18 local government units (cities, counties, watershed districts) for water quality improvement projects in FY25-26.
- Clean Water Act Section 319 federal funding provides \$2.8 million per year to local partners to implement waterbody restoration and protection actions in 35 prioritized subwatersheds.

PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

- The Watershed Division's mission is to provide science, assistance, and oversight to protect and restore Minnesota's waters, supporting the MPCA mission to protect human health and the environment.
- The Division's vision is that Minnesota's waters and watersheds continuously become healthier.
- We value partnership, science, efficiency, fairness, honesty, and strategic thinking and action.

The Watershed Division works with local partners to ensure that Minnesota has clean water to support aquatic life, healthy communities, and a strong economy. Key partners and constituents are local governments and the livestock industry.

- Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy reports (WRAPS) provide science to inform local water planning and implementation, as well as state permitting activity. WRAPS help ensure efficient use of funding to reduce and prevent water pollution.
- Minnesota's vibrant animal agriculture industry provides significant economic benefits to the state, and properly managed manure contributes to soil health and farm profitability. The Division permits approximately 1,100 larger operations to ensure their feedlots and manure application do not harm the state's waters. The 50 delegated county feedlot programs register and work with approximately 12,600 smaller livestock operations to meet these same goals.
- The Clean Water Partnership Loan Program provides over \$4.5 million per year to local governments for projects focused on restoring and protecting waters, with most of the funding used to address failing or noncompliant septic systems. Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 Small Watershed Focus Program grants provide about \$2.8 million per year for watershed restoration and protection and leverages almost \$1.9 million per year in state and local match. The Section 319 grant funds are used to implement US EPA-approved "nine key element plans" to reduce nonpoint source pollution loading in small watersheds.

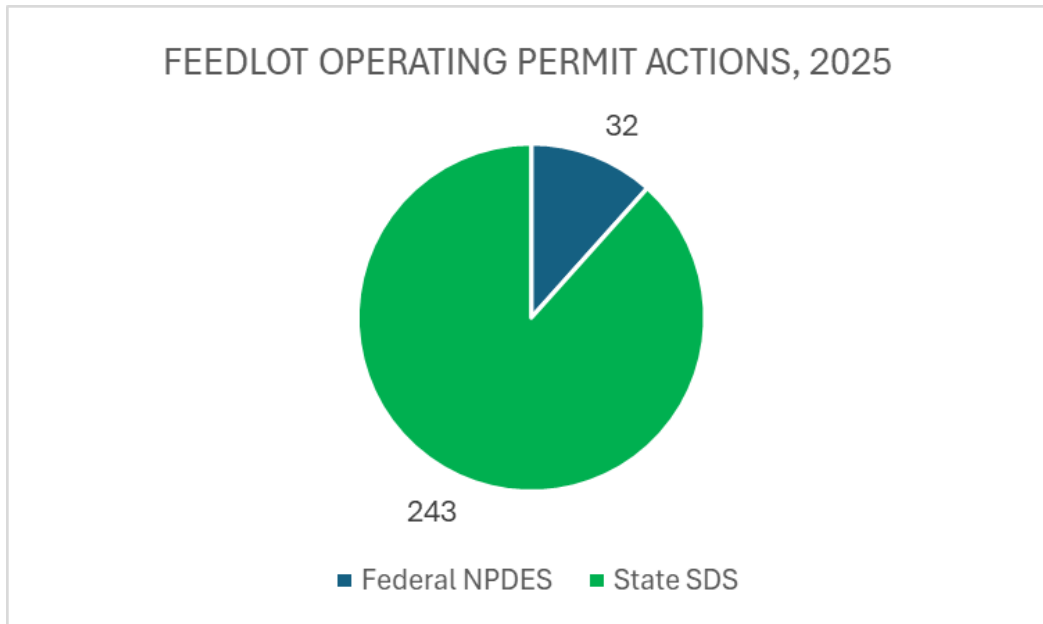
SERVICES PROVIDED

The Watershed Division conducts activities to ensure that the state's lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater are clean, healthy, and sustainable. These activities include:

- Investigating the causes and sources of water pollution problems, including identification of stressors of aquatic life, stream sampling, and providing training on monitoring for local partners.
- Developing and using comprehensive watershed computer models to fill in data gaps and to run scenarios of options for addressing pollution issues.
- Providing local government partners funding and technical assistance to collaboratively update WRAPS reports for all 80 of the state's watersheds. These reports are a blueprint for local water resource managers to use in their local water plans, and the initial reports were completed across the state in 2023. The Division is in the process of updating the earliest developed WRAPS (now called WRAPS Updates), as appropriate based on local government partner needs for information on items like effectiveness of implementation efforts and further understanding of causes of water pollution. Eighteen watersheds' updates are completed with dozens more underway.
- Working with Tribal, neighboring state, and international partners on transboundary waters to develop and achieve shared water quality objectives and goals.
- Tracking progress of watershed activities in achieving water quality goals, while working to ensure all Minnesotans benefit from equal levels of environmental protection and have opportunities to participate in decisions that may affect their environment or health (i.e., the principle of environmental justice).
- Updated the statewide Nutrient Reduction Strategy (2025), primarily using federal funds, to address the effects of excess nutrients in our waters and as far away as Lake Winnipeg and the "dead zone" in the Gulf.
- Facilitating and overseeing grant, contract, and loan awards of state and federal funds to local partners for water quality projects, including Clean Water Fund WRAPS development, Clean Water Partnership Loans, and federal Clean Water Act Section 319 implementation grant projects.
- Issuing feedlot permits, overseeing delegated county feedlot programs, providing compliance assistance, conducting feedlot inspections, and as necessary taking enforcement actions. The Feedlot Program continues to use a risk-based inspection approach; developed and implemented in coordination with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency over almost the last decade.

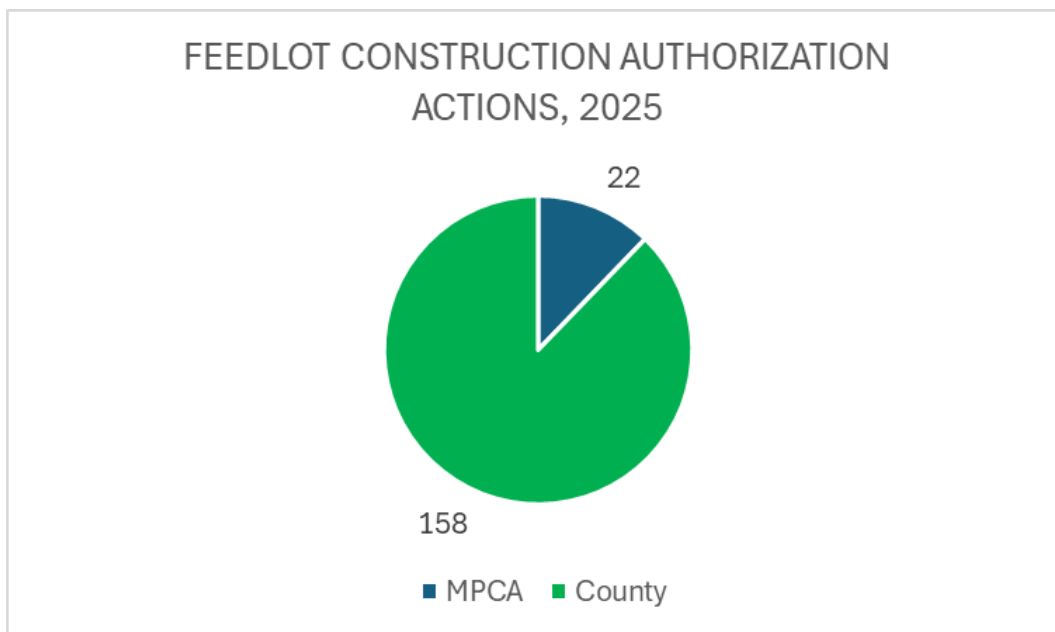
RESULTS

Part A: Performance Data



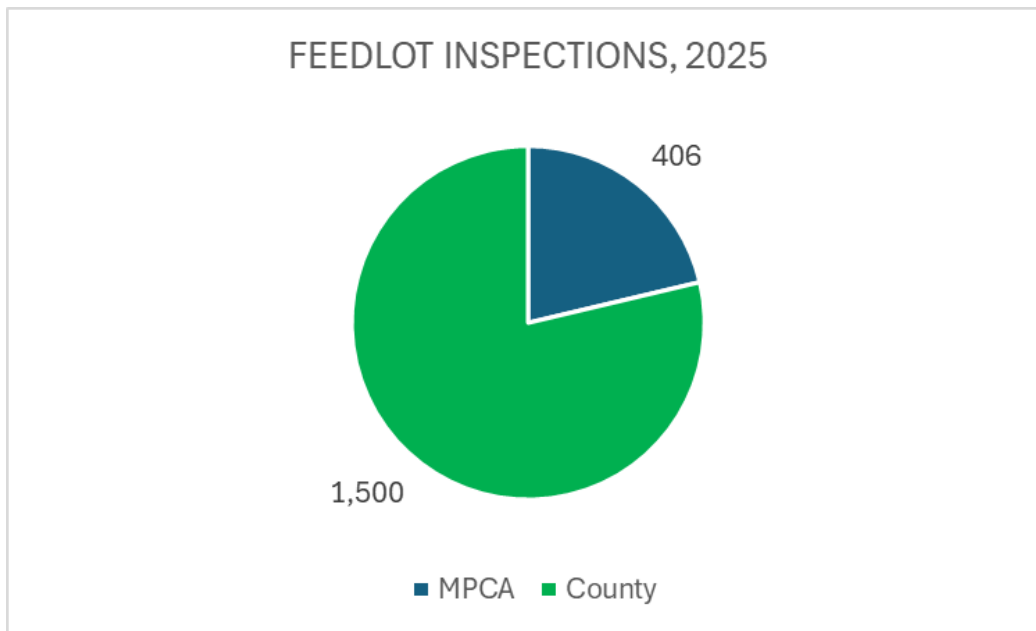
The pie chart above shows a total of 275 feedlot operating permit actions taken by the Feedlot Program in 2025, 32 for federal permits and 243 for state permits.

Trends for operating permit actions are not feasible to report, because of the 5-year federal cycle and 10-year state cycle of issuing general permit coverages.



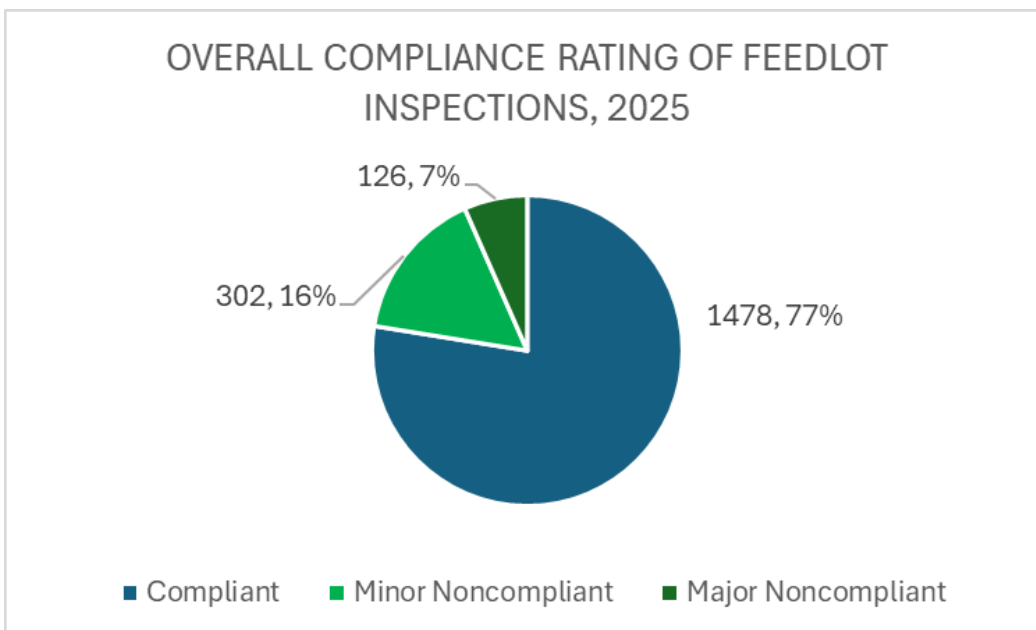
The pie chart above shows a total of 180 feedlot construction authorization actions taken in 2025, 22 by the MPCA and 158 by delegated counties.

Comparing to the 2023 numbers reported two years ago, the trend in construction authorization actions slightly increased by 5%, with a total of 171 in 2023 and 180 in 2025.



The pie chart above shows a total of 1,906 feedlot inspections conducted in 2025, 406 by the MPCA and 1,500 by delegated counties.

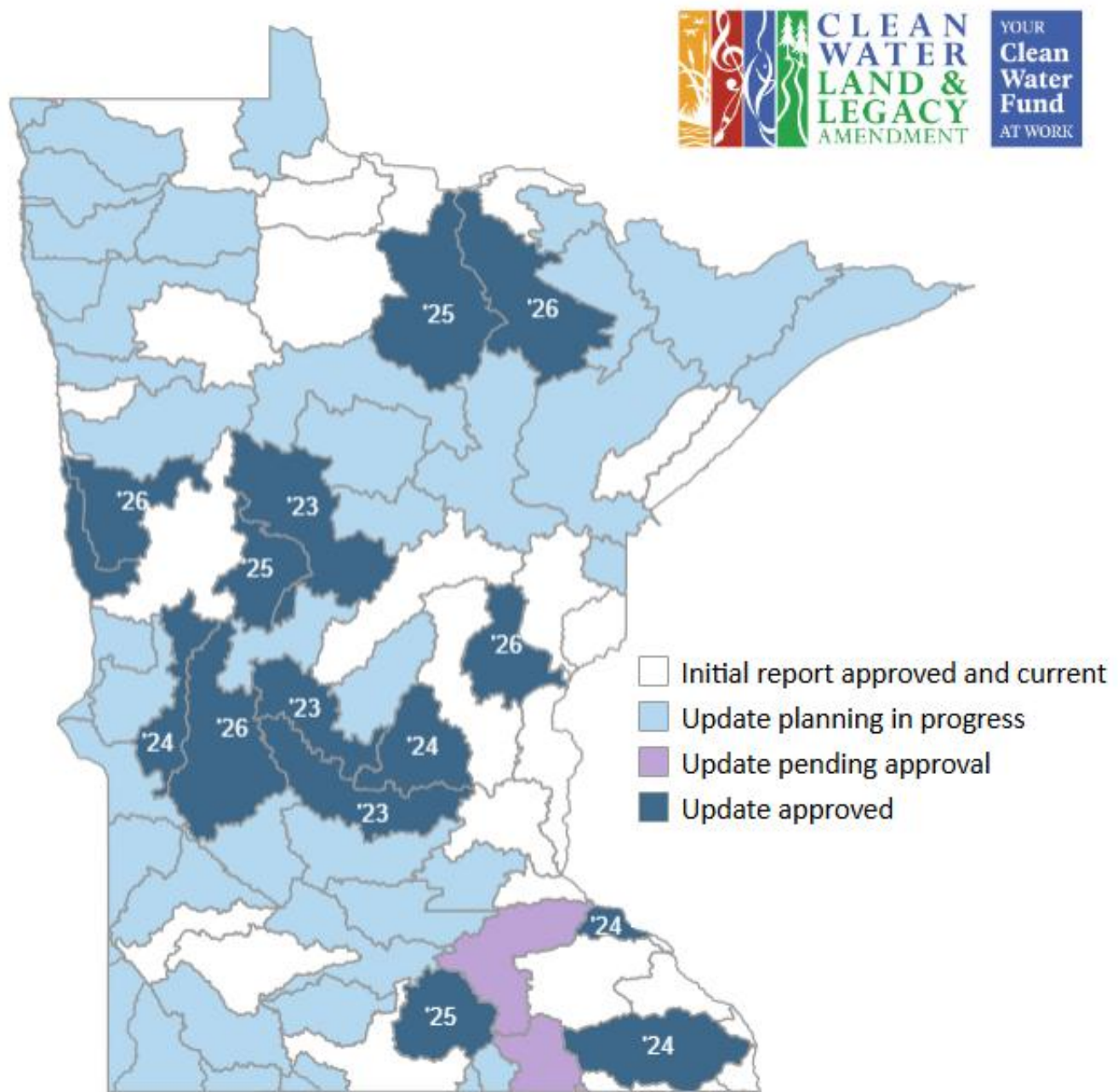
Comparing to the 2023 numbers reported two years ago, the trend in inspections conducted is flat and slightly increased 1.8% from 1,873 in 2023 to 1,906 in 2025.



The pie chart above shows the number and percentage of the overall compliance ratings generated by feedlot inspections in 2025: 1,478 or 77% compliant; 302 or 16% minor noncompliant; and 126 or 7% major noncompliant.

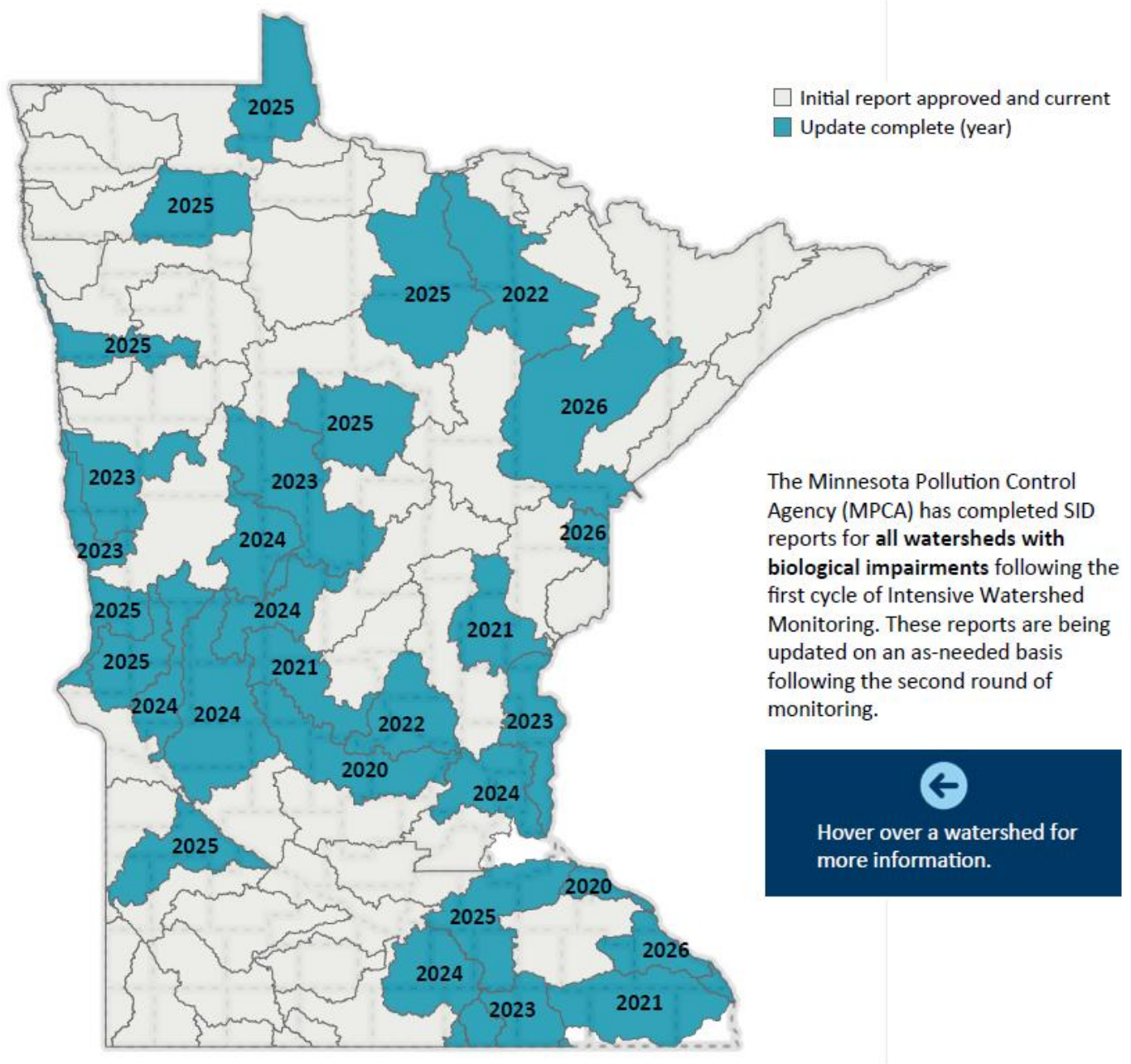
Comparing to the 2023 numbers reported two years ago, the trend in compliance ratings was flat with similar numbers in each of the two years. The compliant rating in 2023 was 75% and 77% in 2025; the minor noncompliant rating in 2023 was 19% and 16% in 2025; the major noncompliant rating in 2023 was 6% and 7% in 2025.

WATERSHED RESTORATION AND PROTECTION STRATEGY REPORT UPDATES STATUS, AS OF JULY 2026



The map above shows the progress and status of Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy reports by watershed for the 80 watersheds of the state. All watersheds' initial reports were completed by 2023, and many of the reports have been or are being updated following on the second 10-year water monitoring cycle. The map indicates updates were completed for 3 watersheds in 2023, 4 watersheds in 2024, 3 watersheds in 2025, and thus far in 2026 5 completed plus 2 to be completed in September for a total of 7, with as many as 5 more possibly being completed by year end. The trend for the rate of report update completions is improving as of 2026. Looking ahead, at least 8 watersheds' report updates are scheduled to go to public notice in the first half of 2027. The map shows dozens of watersheds in the update process.

BIOLOGICAL STRESSOR IDENTIFICATION REPORT UPDATES STATUS, AS OF JULY 2026



The map above shows the progress and status of Biological Stressor Identification reports by watershed for the 80 watersheds of the state. All watersheds' initial reports were completed by 2023, and many of the reports have been or are being updated following on the second 10-year water monitoring cycle. The map indicates updates were completed for 2 watersheds in 2020, 3 watersheds in 2021, 2 watersheds in 2022, 8 watersheds in 2023, 6 watersheds in 2024, 9 watersheds in 2025, and thus far in 2026 4 completed. The trend for the rate of report update completions has been improving for the last 3 years.

Part B: Evidence of Effectiveness

No evidence-based practices identified.

Minnesota Statutes, Chapters, 115 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=115>), 115A (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=115A>) and 116 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=116>) provide the agency with its main authorities to provide regulatory, monitoring and assistance services. Minnesota Statutes Chapter 114D (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/114D>) provides the authority for WRAPS and related work.

Program: Environmental Quality Board<https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/>**AT A GLANCE**

- Board made up of public members appointed by the Governor from each of Minnesota's eight Congressional Districts and the heads of nine state agencies.
- Oversight of the Environmental Review Program per the Minnesota Environmental Policy Act (1973), including support to local governments through technical assistance.
- Convenes monthly public meetings to provide a forum for the public and state leaders to collaborate on environmental policy.
- Supports informed decision-making that protects and enhances Minnesota's environmental quality.
- Leads interagency coordination on cross-cutting environmental issues.
- Convenes Environmental Congress, advisory panels, and other public events and processes to provide avenues for meaningful public engagement.

PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

The Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) is a forum for leadership and coordination on environmental issues. The Board's mission is to support informed decision-making that protects and enhances Minnesota's environmental quality. We accomplish this by fostering meaningful conversations, supporting collaborative policy and program development, and ensuring effective environmental review of potentially impactful projects. The Board's unique contribution is the ability to bring multiple agencies and the public together to advance interdisciplinary discussions on complex environmental issues.

EQB strategically works to:

- Foster meaningful conversations around environmental issues
- Support innovative state policy and program development on priority and emerging environmental issues
- Maintain and improve Minnesota's environmental review program
- Move toward achieving environmental quality without disproportionate impacts

SERVICES PROVIDED**Meaningful Conversations and Engagement**

- Engage Minnesotans on a regular basis around environmental issues and provide a forum for public dialogue with agency leaders.
- Hold Board meetings to share information and foster public participation in decision making.
- Distribute relevant scientific, economic, and policy documents that inform the public about environmental issues and the state's connected programs, outcomes, and opportunities.
- Convene and participate in work groups to ensure partner and community input informs state policies.

Cross-Agency Policy and Program Development

- Facilitate interagency coordination that aligns agency programs to support the state's policy goals for public health and environmental protection.
- Provide written reports to the governor, legislature, and state and local agencies on priority environmental issues, including policy considerations and economic analyses.
- Produce reports – such as the State Water Plan, Groundwater Policy report, and annual reports on pollinator protection activities – on key environmental issues of interest to the public.
- Lead and facilitate interagency working groups to respond to complex environmental issues with broad cross-sector impacts.

Environmental Review

- Oversee and administer Minnesota's state-level environmental review program.
- Provide technical assistance to project proposers, government units, and the public through online resources, tools, and guidance; technical presentations and training; and one-on-one assistance.
- Collect and evaluate data to monitor statewide environmental review activities and measure the effectiveness of the program, report on results and trends and use data to identify program improvements.
- Continuously evaluate and improve program effectiveness for all parties through training and education, updated program guidance and tools, and administrative rule revisions.

RESULTS

Part A: Performance Data

EQB-Wide

- Led development of the 2025 Groundwater Policy Report required by M.S. 103A.204 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/103A.204>). The report provides foundational information about groundwater, highlights a shared sustainability goal, describes program successes across state agencies, and identifies key challenges as well as gaps and opportunities. The report is available at https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/sites/eqb/files/2025_groundwater_policy_report.pdf.
- As directed by Executive Order 19-28, led the Interagency Pollinator Protection Team (IPPT) in implementing the Pollinator Action Framework (https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/sites/eqb/files/2023_Minnesota_State_Agency_Pollinator_Annual_Report_MN_Pollinator_Action_Framework_Final.pdf), a set of recommended actions to achieve healthy and diverse pollinator populations. Reported on progress in the 2025 Minnesota State Agency Pollinator Report (https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/sites/eqb/files/2025_minnesota_state_agency_pollinator_report.pdf).
- Conducted pollinator education through events and webinars, including: a September 2025 webinar in collaboration with the Xerces Society, UMN Bee Lab, and Metro Blooms sharing why fall is critical for the survival of pollinators and steps to help overwintering (250+ registrants); and a March 2026 webinar in collaboration with GreenStep cities to help cities support deployment of pollinator-protection focused projects (40+ registrants)
- Participated in the development of metrics and targets for the 2026 Climate Action Framework.

Environmental Review Program

- Developed the Minnesota Environmental Review Climate Calculator (<https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/environmental-review/climate-assessments>) to support project proposers and responsible government units in assessing a project's climate impacts. Provided trainings and support on using the calculator to complete an environmental assessment worksheet.
- Released frequently asked questions for large or hyperscale data center projects (<https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/environmental-review/data-centers-faq>). Participated with Minnesota Business First Stop to develop a data center regulatory guide and gave multiple presentations around data centers and environmental review.
- Completed legislatively mandated updates to environmental review rules around energy infrastructure projects and on the scoping of mandatory environmental impact statements.
- Made significant progress (published a notice of intent to adopt) on rulemaking to develop mandatory categories for gas resource development.
- Updated guidance to the public on submitting environmental review petitions, which decreased the number of petitions initially deemed incomplete from 60% in 2024 (9 of 15) to 8% (1 of 13) in 2025.
- Hosted environmental review training webinars on various topics, reaching over 650 people via live and recorded viewing from April 2025 through April 2026.
- Launched an Environmental Review Performance Summary data dashboard (<https://data.pca.state.mn.us/views/EQBperformancesummary/EnvironmentalReviewPerformanceSummary?%3Aembed=y&%3Aiid=1%3F&%3AisGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y&%3Atoolbar=top>) that provides regularly updated performance information.
- Developed survey tools and gathered preliminary information to better understand the length of time it takes to gather and develop the information needed to complete environmental review.
- EQB staff regularly track and report on environmental review data. The following table provides a summary of 2025 calendar year data and recent historical trends.

Measure name	Measure type	Measure data source	Historical trends (2022, 2023, 2024)	Most recent data (2025)
Environmental Review Process Types - Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) - Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) - Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR)	Quantity	EQB Monitor published notices	• EAWs: 78, 53, 47 • AUARs: 7, 6, 9 • EISs: 0, 2, 1 • Petitions for EAWs: 14, 14, 15	• EAWs: 53 • AUARs: 8 • EISs: 3 • Petitions for EAWs: 13
Mandatory Categories (project type)	Quantity	EQB Monitor published notices	• Projects in 17, 16, 16 different mandatory categories • 82%, 74%, 72% of reviews completed by local governments	• Projects in 16 different mandatory categories • 79% of reviews completed by local governments
Comment letters	Quantity	EQB Monitor published notices	• EAW: Average 7, 11, 7 comments • EIS: Average 3 comments (2024) • AUAR: Average 8 comments (2024)	• EAW: Average 6 comments • EIS: 15; 24; and 156 comment letters respectively • AUAR: Average 9 comments
Time to complete environmental review (publication to final decision)	Quality	EQB Monitor published notices	• EAW: 83, 97, 86 days • EIS: N/A, 770, 841 days • AUAR: 160, 210 182 days	• EAW: 89 days • EIS: 1012 days • AUAR: 169 days
Technical assistance support provided by EQB	Quantity	Internal tracking	• 284 (2022), not available due to tracking change	• 279 requests
Environmental review provided usable information	Results	EQB Monitor submittal service	• 86%, 89%, 94% - yes, provided usable information • 74%, 83%, 89% - process identified mitigation measures	• 94% - yes, provided usable information • 82% - process identified mitigation measures
Public participation	Results	EQB Monitor submittal service	Not available	• 23% of RGUs held a public meeting for an EAW

Part B: Evidence of Effectiveness

No evidence-based practices identified.

M.S. 116C (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/116c>) and 116D (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/116D>) provide the legal authority for the Environmental Quality Board's operations and initiatives.