

1ST QUARTER, JANUARY 2023



AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT  
ASSOCIATION

UPPER MIDWEST SECTION

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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## A&WMA-UMS Member Spotlight



### HANNAH MATHERS

Hannah is an Environmental Analyst at Xcel Energy and has been with the company for the last six months. Her role within Xcel is to provide permitting guidance and support to a variety of facilities in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Prior to working at Xcel, Hannah was an environmental engineer at ONEOK Inc. doing multimedia environmental compliance work for a natural gas transmission line in Minnesota and Wisconsin. She holds a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering and Biology Bachelor of Science from the University of Minnesota.

Hannah recently joined the Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) when she started at Xcel and will be serving as Treasurer for the 2023 A&WMA Board of Directors. She is very excited for the opportunity to be involved with the Association and to engage with others in the environmental field.

Outside of work and A&WMA, Hannah enjoys time spent with her wife, Paige and dog, Apollo. She enjoys completing DIY projects around her house and is an avid Minnesota Vikings fan!

## Safety Moment

This quarter's safety moment is about snow shoveling. Each year emergency rooms across the country see about 11,500 injuries and as many as 100 deaths as a result of snow shoveling. These injuries are most commonly slips and falls and acute muscle strains. Deaths associated with snow shoveling are most often a result of heart attacks brought on by the increased strain on the heart. The combination of cold temperatures and physical exertion increase the workload on the heart, leading to an elevated risk of heart attack.

National Safety Council recommends the following tips to shovel safely:

- Do not shovel after eating or while smoking.
- Take it slow and stretch out before you begin.
- Shovel only fresh, powdery snow; it's lighter.
- Push the snow rather than lifting it.
- If you do lift it, use a small shovel or only partially fill the shovel.
- Lift with your legs, not your back.
- Do not work to the point of exhaustion.
- Know the signs of a heart attack, and stop immediately and call 911 if you're experiencing any of them; every minute counts.

To read more about snow shoveling safety, click [HERE](#).



# A&WMA-UMS News & Announcements

## WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

What are ways I can get involved in the Air & Waste Management - Upper Midwest Section? We are always looking for new involvement in any of the committee at any time of the year! Elections are held on an annual basis. Please see below for more information and feel free to reach out to the A&WMA-UMS Chair, Miranda Mair, at [Miranda.Mair@awma-ums.org](mailto:Miranda.Mair@awma-ums.org) for with any questions or to get further information!



1. **Join a Committee.** Committees are a great first step to get involved in the A&WMA-UMS. Committees allow for members to interact in a smaller group, take ownership of specific events or tasks, and give their opinion on the direction of the organization. Committees typically meet once a month for an hour, with additional time needed for events or committee task completion. Please reference our website for more details on the committees by clicking the link at the bottom of the page.

2. **Run for an Officer position.** There are four Officers of the A&WMA-UMS - Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. Each position is a one-year term. Descriptions of these positions can be found in the A&WMA-UMS bylaws, [HERE](#). Nominations for Officer positions will be posted to members in October of each year. Officers are expected to attend monthly board meetings (one hour/month), as well as complete required tasks for their position.

3. **Run for a Director position.** There are three Directors of the A&WMA-UMS. Directors are voting members who participate in each Board meeting. They also are the sole members of the Nominating Committee, who are in charge of annual Board elections. Each director position is a three-year term. Nominations for one Director position will be posted to members in October of each year. Directors are expected to attend monthly board meetings (one hour/month) and lead the election process in the fall.

Please take a look at our website for more details and information if you are interested in getting involved! [LINK HERE](#)

## A&WMA-UMS Past Event Highlights

### Conference on the Environment

On November 10, 2022, A&WMA-UMS and its partner the Central States Water Environment Association (CSWEA), were proud to host the 37th annual Conference on the Environment (COE) at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

Over 200 people attended this in-person event, enjoying the speakers whose topics spanned across multiple disciplines. Topics included PFAS, Wastewater Regulation, Air Permitting, Waste Management, and so much more. Commissioner Katrina Kessler gave an informative and interesting keynote.

The 38th annual COE is expected to be hosted in Fall 2023. Stay tuned for more details!

### A&WMA-UMS Bowling and Happy Hour Event

The A&WMA-UMS Young Professionals (YP) sponsored Bowling and Happy Hour event was a success. Ten attendees got to enjoy each other's company while making some impressive strikes. Thank you to those who made the event fun!



## A&WMA-UMS Upcoming Events

### 2023 Solid Waste Operators Conference

The A&WMA-UMS and the Minnesota Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) are excited to announce the Solid Waste Operator Conference on February 28, 2023 from 7:00 am - 3:00 pm. The conference will be held at the St. Cloud Holiday Inn & Suites (75 37th Avenue, St. Cloud, MN) and breakfast and lunch are included in the registration.

This conference is focused on presenting relevant information related to the safe and effective operations of solid waste facilities in compliance with all applicable regulations. We will also cover emerging issues affecting the management of these facilities.

Conference costs are as follows:

- Member Rate: \$130
- Non-Member Rate: \$165
- Student Rate: \$55
- Sponsor Rate: \$350



Registration Link for the Conference: [REGISTER HERE](#)

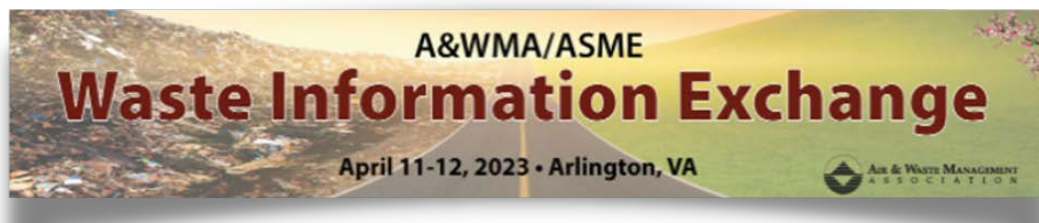
## Upcoming A&WMA National Events

### A&WMA 116th Annual Conference & Exhibition

The Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) will welcome the world's leading environmental experts, thinkers, and practitioners to Orlando from June 5-8, 2023 to address environmental challenges, discuss strategies and solutions to climate change, sustainability, new contaminants, and other issues that call for balancing growth with sustainability and resiliency. Conference and registration information [HERE](#).



## Upcoming A&WMA National Events



### **A&WMA/ASME Waste Information Exchange**

The Air & Waste Management Association and American Society of Mechanical Engineers team up to bring you the Waste Information Exchange conference next April in the Washington DC area.

The conference will cover the latest information on a broad range of waste-related topics including regulations and research in an interactive, discussion-focused format. This is an excellent learning and networking opportunity to hear directly from experts at EPA, NGOs, industry, and academia who are working together to develop solutions to creating a cleaner and healthier environment. The technical program will cover policy updates and regulatory changes, as well as current and late-breaking research on hot topics such as: Solid Waste, Biosolids, Landfill Issues and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Monitoring, Reuse/Recycling, Resource Management, Waste-to-Energy, PFAS Emissions and Controls, Environmental Justice and RCRA Requirements for Open Burning. Registration information [HERE](#).

## Upcoming A&WMA National Webinars



### **Overcoming the Barriers of PFAS Contamination**

Thursday February 1 @ 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm ET



### **Wildfires Webinar**

Wednesday, March 15 @ 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm ET

For more information on the webinars, click [HERE](#).

# State Permitting/Rule Updates/Form Updates

## Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

### MPCA Launches New Website

The MPCA recently launched their newly designed website. As part of the redesign process, they refined and reorganized the website by simplifying the navigation and grouping similar content to create more intuitive experience. The overall goal is to make content easier to find and explore. Be sure to visit the new website and update links!

Link to [MPCA Website](#)

### MPCA Form Updates

The following common MPCA air permit application forms have been updated from June 1st, 2022 through today ([Link to MPCA Forms](#)):

- TFP Application Review 12/29/2022
- Amendment Application Review 12/29/2022
- GI-03 Facility and Stack Vent Diagram: 8/8/2022
- GI-04 Stack Vent Information: 12/29/2022
- GI-09c Requirements: New Source Review Prevention of Significant Deterioration: 12/29/2022
- CK-01 Operating Permit Application Requirements: 12/29/2022
- CH-04 Determination of New Source Review Status: 12/29/2022
- CH-05 Permit Changes Form, Applicability of NSPS: 12/29/2022
- CH-07 Applicability of Part 63 NESHAP for Amendments: 12/29/2022
- CH-14 Complete Notification and Amendment Application Checklist: 12/29/2022
- Registration Permit Application Review: 12/29/2022
- RP-04 Estimation Form: 8/4/2022
- RP-D1 Option D Actual Emission Form: 8/4/2022



# State Permitting/Rule Updates/Form Updates

## Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

### PM2.5 Control Equipment Rule

MPCA Requests Comment on Particulate Matter Control Efficiencies

In response to permittee requests to add PM2.5 control efficiencies to the control equipment rules, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has updated the database of air pollution controls and their demonstrated PM, PM10, and PM2.5 control efficiencies. The database is the technical support for default control efficiencies included in the control equipment rule.

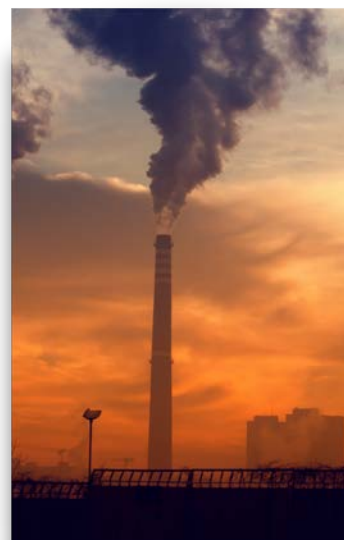
The updated database, data sources, and background information are contained in the report Particulate Matter Emissions Permitting in Minnesota. The report is available for public review and comment through March 1 on the [MPCA's Public notice webpage](#) under "Particulate Matter Emissions - Possible Rulemaking."

### Early Estimate of 2023 Air Emission Fees

Invoices based on the 2021 air emissions will be mailed in the spring of 2023. The estimated air fee for 2023 is \$152 per ton of billable emissions.

The 2023 estimate of \$152 per ton is about \$20 per ton less than the 2022 fee. The decrease is a result of a 15% increase in billable emissions from 2020 to 2021. The increase in emissions is primarily due to an increase in nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, and particulate matter emissions from taconite facilities. Some of the taconite facilities were idled for part of 2020 and production resumed in 2021. Total billable emissions in 2021 are similar to total billable emissions in 2019.

Learn more on the MPCA's webpage for air emission reporting and fees [HERE](#).



# Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

## MPCA Quarterly Air Mail Newsletter

MPCA publishes a quarterly Air Mail newsletter with all of their latest news and information. If you are interested in receiving the quarterly via email, sign up here: [MPCA Communications Link](#)

### EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Save the date: Air modeling winter seminar
- Climate resilience grants available for communities across Minnesota
- Adapting your business for a changing world

### GENERAL

- MPCA environmental justice tool updated
- Partner update: Environmental Initiative works to reduce air pollution from auto body shops

### REGULATORY

- Early estimate of 2023 air emission fees
- Plan now to report 1-Bromopropane in 2024
- Particulate matter control efficiency updates
- TCE ban implementation
- MDH posts final Water Gremlin public health assessment
- Draft air permits open for comment
- MPCA enforcement news

## MPCA Air Quality Permitting Guidance



The MPCA offers extensive permitting guidance on their website at the following link: [MN Permitting Guidance](#)

## State Permitting/Rule Updates/Form Updates

### North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality

#### **CERIS**

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) utilizes CERIS (Combined Environmental Regulatory Information System) in order to submit, revise and management air quality applications, registrations or permits, pay environmental fees and submit and view documentation. Access the CERIS here: [Home - CERIS-ND](#)

#### **ND DEQ Air Quality Permitting Guidance**

The North Dakota DEQ offers extensive permitting guidance on their website at the following link: [ND Permitting Guidance](#)



### South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources

#### **South Dakota DANR Air Quality Permitting Guidance**

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) outlines current forms on their website at the following link: [Link to Forms](#). Additionally, SD DANR offers permitting guidance on their website at the following link: [SD Permitting Guidance](#).

### Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

#### **Wisconsin DNR Air Quality Permitting Guidance**

Have you ever wondered how the permitting process in Wisconsin works? The eleven-step process is detailed on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' webpage. See the following link for more details: [WI Permitting Guidance](#).

#### **Wisconsin DNR Current Air Quality Permitting Forms**

The latest forms for air applications can be found here: [Link to Forms](#)



## In the News

### **Biden-Harris Administration Announces Availability of \$100 Million through Inflation Reduction Act for Environmental Justice Grants**

On January 10, 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the availability of approximately \$100 million for projects that advance environmental justice in underserved and overburdened communities across the country. This funding is the largest amount of grant money available for environmental justice projects ever.

"I've learned over the last two decades of working on environmental justice at the community-level how the proper support and funding can turn good ideas and hard work into something truly impactful," said Catherine Coleman Flowers, Founding Director of the Center for Rural Enterprise and Environmental Justice. "I'm confident that this historic investment from the EPA and Biden Administration is going to yield some incredible solutions to the crisis of environmental injustice, especially in Rural communities that are under-resourced and overburdened."

To learn more about this unprecedented event, click [HERE](#).



### **EPA Requires Reporting on Releases and Other Waste Management for Nine Additional PFAS**

On January 6, 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the addition of nine chemicals to the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI). These chemicals are per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). TRI reports are annual data reports sent to the EPA by facilities in certain industry sectors and federal facilities that manufacture, process, or otherwise use TRI-listed chemicals above certain quantities.

To learn more about the report, click [HERE](#).



## In the News

### **EPA Proposes to Strengthen Air Quality Standards to Protect the Public from Harmful Effects of Soot**

On January 6, 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a proposal to protect the public from fine particulate matter, or soot. This proposal includes strengthening the national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) for fine particulates, or PM<sub>2.5</sub>, by decreasing the threshold from 12 micrograms per cubic meter to a level between 9 and 10 micrograms per cubic meter. This threshold reflects latest health data and scientific evidence.



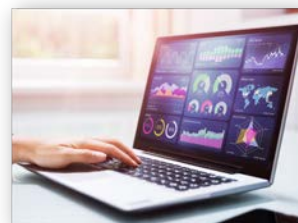
Fine particulate matter can penetrate into the lungs deeply, which can cause asthma attacks, heart attacks, and premature deaths. These health risks disproportionately impact children, older adults, those with heart or lung conditions, communities of color, and low-income communities.

The EPA is planning on having a public comment period for 60 days after the proposal is registered in the Federal Register. Virtual hearings will be open to the public over several days, starting at 11:00 am Eastern Time and ending at 7:00 pm Eastern Time each day.

Read more about this proposal [HERE](#).

### **EPA Releases New PFAS Analytic Tools**

A new analytical PFAS tool has been released by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This interactive webpage called "PFAS Analytic Tools" is designed to provide information on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) across the country. The tool takes information from multiple national databases and reports.



Read more about the new PFAS tool [HERE](#).



## In the News

### MPCA Environmental Justice Tool Updated

The MPCA has updated its map tool for [Understanding environmental justice in Minnesota](#). This online tool combines environmental justice maps, MNRISKS air pollution scores, and data from What's in My Neighborhood for facilities with air permits.

Visitors can explore different tabs for any location in Minnesota to identify areas of concern for environmental justice or understand permits and air pollution in different areas. The environmental justice areas of concern were updated to reflect 2020 census tracts. The air pollution scores were updated with MNRISKS 2017 data, the most recent available modeling.



### Plan Now to Report 1-Bromopropane in 2024

1-Bromopropane is now an EPA-listed hazardous air pollutant (HAP), and MPCA has incorporated it into its air emission inventory. It is also known as 1-BP, n-propyl bromide, and nPB, and by CAS number 106-94-5. This new HAP is included in the MPCA's e-Services Air Emission Inventory – CEDR online reporting site as an air toxic pollutant. In e-Services, it is called "BROMOPROPA,1".

All air toxics are included in the MPCA emission inventory every three years. Facilities that will use or emit 1-bromopropane during the 2023 emission inventory year should prepare to track the necessary information to determine 1-BP emissions estimates for the year. This will enable facilities to accurately report those emissions in 2024.

For questions about 1-BP emissions reporting for large facilities, contact Joe Miller in the MPCA's emissions inventory group at [joseph.j.miller@state.mn.us](mailto:joseph.j.miller@state.mn.us). For facilities with registration permits, contact the MPCA's Small Business Environmental Assistance Program at 800-657-3938 or [smallbizhelp.pca@state.mn.us](mailto:smallbizhelp.pca@state.mn.us).



## In the News

### **In De-icing Season, a “Less is More” Approach Best Protects Lakes and Streams**

With the arrival of winter weather come warnings to avoid using too much of a good thing to maintain snowy roadways, sidewalks and parking lots. Salt — often used to de-ice our paved surfaces — is commonly over-applied, sending too much chloride into our waterways and wreaking havoc for fish and other wildlife. Minnesotans can do their part this winter with a “less is better” strategy for salting surfaces and by using other tools to get the job done.

We scatter an estimated 445,000 tons of chloride-containing salt across Minnesota each year. Not only does salt damage our infrastructure, but it harms the environment. Chloride in salt ends up in our surface water, lakes, rivers and streams. It is toxic to our freshwater fish and other aquatic life. In fact, some waterways have so much chloride, they have been added to the state’s impaired waters list.

Read more [HERE](#).



## Air Quality in Your Area

Did you know that you can view real-time data for the air quality in your area? See below for the interactive map for your area.



- **Minnesota**
- **Wisconsin**
- **South Dakota**
- **North Dakota**
- **Federal level / all other states**



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