

General information

Public comment period begins: May 18, 2026

Public comment period ends: June 18, 2026

Current permit issued: July 30, 2019

Current permit expiration date: July 31, 2029

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to modify this permit for the remainder of the permit term.

Name and address of Permittee:

Clearwater County
213 Main Ave N Dept 206
Bagley, Minnesota 56621-8312

Facility name and location:

Clearwater County Demolition Debris
Land Disposal
37527 Fairground Rd
Bagley, MN 56621
Clearwater County
T147N, R37W, Section 017

MPCA contact person:

Lisa Mojsiej
Resource Management and Assistance Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Rd N
St. Paul MN 55155
Phone: 651-757-2373
Email: lisa.mojsiej@state.mn.us

File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or
844-828-0942

A draft permit is available for review on the MPCA Public Notices webpage at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/get-engaged/public-comments>. Additional materials relating to the issuance of this permit are available for inspection by appointment at any MPCA office (<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mPCA/contact-us>) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The MPCA will mail or email a copy of the draft permit upon request. Comments, petitions, and other requests must be received at the MPCA in writing on or before the public comment period end date and U.S. Mail comments must be received by 4:30 p.m.

Watershed: NA

Receiving water: NA

Description of Permitted Facility

On May 4, 1976, Clearwater County was issued a permit to operate a demolition landfill on the above described property. At the time of issuance, no expiration date was attached to the permit, and the county operated the facility without any additional permitting requirements for the next 27 years. Under the terms of an agreement with the state, Clearwater County submitted an application to repermit the facility and the permit was reissued on September 2, 2004. The permit allowed for the disposal of up to 47,500 cubic yards of debris and cover materials. Following a permit reissuance application submission and review, the permit was reissued in October 2009. Due to unexpected waste volumes, this permit reissuance was applied for prior to 2014 expiration date. The County requested the permit be issued for only five years. This permit reissuance will approve filling to the ultimate capacity of the facility.

The active fill area of the demolition landfill is located on about five (5) acres and is designated as DD001 in the permit. The ultimate design capacity for the entire facility is estimated at 119,000 cubic yards of demolition debris and cover material. According to the 2018 annual report, 87,000 cubic yards of material had already been placed in the facility. This permit authorizes an additional placement of 41,000 cubic yards of material, for a permitted capacity of 119,000 cubic yards through the development of Phase 11.

This modification increases the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Transfer capacity and updates the groundwater monitoring. A minor modification application was received on May 27, 2025, after an annual report review noted the volumes of MSW transfer exceeded the currently permitted capacity. The increased MSW capacity is below a permit-by-rule threshold, so a major permit modification is not necessary.

The preliminary determination to modify this Solid Waste permit is tentative.

Procedure for public participation

As stated in Minn. R. chs. 7000 and 7001, there are three formal procedures for public participation in the MPCA's consideration of this matter. Interested persons may:

- 1) Submit written comments on the draft permit.
- 2) Petition the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting.
- 3) Petition the MPCA to hold a contested case hearing.

Submitting written comments

Comments may be submitted:

- 1) Online at <https://mpca.commentinput.com/comment/search>; or
- 2) By U.S. postal mail to the following address:
Lisa Mojsiej
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Rd N
St. Paul MN 55155

Submitted comments or petitions must state:

- 1) Your interest in the permit application or the draft permit.
- 2) The action you wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to the section of the draft permit you believe should be changed.
- 3) The reasons supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the MPCA to investigate the merits of the position.

Public informational meeting

A public informational meeting is an informal meeting during which interested persons can ask questions concerning the proposed facility. MPCA staff will be present to provide information. If an interested person would like the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting, the person should include all information identified above and in addition include a statement of the reasons the person desires the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting and the issues that the person would like the agency to address at the public informational meeting.

Contested Case Hearing

A contested case hearing is a formal proceeding before an administrative law judge empowered to advise the MPCA regarding issues of fact. As described in Minn. R. 7000.1800, persons who submit petitions for a contested case hearing must also state the issues they propose to address in a contested case hearing, the specific relief requested or resolution of the matter, and the reasons (which may be in the form of proposed findings) supporting an MPCA decision to hold a contested case hearing. Failure to comply with these rules exactly may result in a denial of the request. To the extent known, the petitioner may also submit a list of prospective witnesses to be called at a hearing, a proposed list of publications, references, or studies to be introduced at a hearing and the approximate time required for the petitioner to present the matter at a hearing. The decision whether to hold a contested case hearing will be made under Minn. R. 7000.1900.