

Public Notice of a preliminary decision to approve a SWMP

Solid Waste

General information

Public comment period begins: July 23, 2026

Public comment period ends: August 24, 2026

**Name and address(s) of County,
District, or Multicounty Area:**

Cottonwood County
PO Box 247
Windom, MN 56101-0247

*Additional information may also be
obtained at these offices.*

Location and contact information:

Cottonwood County
Kyle Pillatzki
46705 County Rd 15
Windom, MN 56101

MPCA contact person:

Ben Crowell
Resource Management and Assistance
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
504 Fairgrounds Rd Ste 200
Marshall, MN 56258
Phone: 507-476-4261
Email: ben.crowell@state.mn.us

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

A draft Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) is available for review on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Public Notices webpage at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/get-engaged/public-comments>. Additional materials relating to the draft SWMP 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 SWMP upon request. Comments 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.

Description of SWMP

Cottonwood County submitted a SWMP to the MPCA that proposes an integrated solid waste management system. The SWMP states that over the ten-year planning period of 2026-2035, Cottonwood County will:

- Generate approximately 17,000 tons of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) annually.
- Reduce MSW by approximately 2.8 tons annually by directing residents to secondhand stores and textile drop boxes located throughout the county.
- Educate residents about proper solid waste management via newspaper articles, social media, websites, and booths at various events.
- Achieve a 35% recycling rate (approximately 4,800 tons) by providing curbside single-sort collection in incorporated areas and 10 drop sites across the county for rural residents.
- The MSW that is not reduced, reused, or recycled (approximately 10,000 tons) will be managed at the Cottonwood County Landfill and the Nobles County Landfill.
- Problem materials such as tires, electronics appliances, household hazardous waste, and automotive fluids will be collected at the Cottonwood County Landfill and private businesses.

Procedure for submitting comments

During the public comment period a person may submit comments to the MPCA on the SWMP.

Comments may be submitted:

- 1) Online at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publiccomments>; or
- 2) By U.S. postal mail to the following address:
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
c/o Ben Crowell
504 Fairgrounds Rd Ste 200
Marshall, MN 56258

Submitted comments must state:

- (1) Your interest in the SWMP.
- (2) The action you wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to the section of the SWMP 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 person may request the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting on the SWMP. A person requesting a public informational meeting must submit the following information as part of the request:

- (1) A statement of why a public informational meeting is necessary;
- (2) The issues the MPCA should address at the public informational meeting; and
- (3) A proposed time and place for the public informational meeting.

SWMP Final Decision

In making a final decision on the SWMP, the commissioner will consider all information submitted by the county, all information received from the public during the public comment period, and all information submitted during a public informational meeting if one is held. The commissioner must also determine whether the SWMP meets the requirements of Minn. R. parts 9215.0540 to 9215.0790. The commissioner's approval will remain in effect for ten years unless the commissioner determines that a shorter period of time is required to ensure that the county implements the plan.