

Agency Purpose

The mission of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is to work with Minnesotans to protect, conserve, and improve our environment and enhance our quality of life.

The vision for the MPCA is:

- ◆ clean and sustainable surface and ground water systems;
- ◆ clean and clear air;
- ◆ land that supports desired uses;
- ◆ excellence in operations; and
- ◆ Minnesotans taking responsibility to protect our environment.

The results of MPCA’s efforts are demonstrable: waste has been reduced, recycling levels have increased, and the air, land, and water are cleaner now than they were 30 years ago.

Guiding Principles

MPCA’s mission is implemented through the following guiding principles:

- ⇒ Focus on priorities and manage for environmental results.
- ⇒ Actively partner to leverage knowledge, ideas, and resources.
- ⇒ Rely on data for decision-making.
- ⇒ Integrate economic, social, and environmental sciences when developing environmental policy.
- ⇒ Strive for excellence and innovation in service delivery.

Operations

Effective July 2005, the legislature approved combining the existing staff, authorities and expertise of the MPCA with those of the Office of Environmental Assistance (OEA). Combining the OEA and the MPCA has united and focused the priorities of the two organizations, broadened the tools being applied to an expanding range of environmental issues, and given new energy and greater scope to public education and outreach efforts.

The MPCA requests funding according to media: water, air, and land. Multimedia includes activities that cross and combine the three major media. Prevention and Assistance, a new program name, includes many of the activities of the former OEA. Administrative Support enables the delivery of program activities for the water, air, and land media and Prevention and Assistance.

The Commissioner’s Office sets the strategic direction for the MPCA and provides an essential link to stakeholders and partners. In addition to the Commissioner’s Office, the agency is organized into seven divisions. Programs and services are managed and delivered through MPCA offices in St. Paul, Duluth, Brainerd, Rochester, Mankato, Detroit Lakes, Willmar, and Marshall.

The Environmental Analysis and Outcomes Division monitors and evaluates the physical, chemical, and biological conditions of Minnesota’s environment. The division identifies potential impacts to human health and the environment, helps set environmental goals, establishes environmental standards, helps develop permit limits, and reports results to staff, stakeholders, and citizens.

At A Glance

- ◆ The MPCA leverages partnerships and resources to address environmental issues and achieve positive results.
- ◆ MPCA uses multiple tools and approaches: technology, financial and technical assistance, prevention, best management practices, regulation and cleanup solutions. A multifaceted approach is typically required to address complex environmental issues.
- ◆ MPCA’s product stewardship program provides an innovative approach to conserving resources, reducing waste, and increasing recycling. The program is currently working on initiatives for carpet, electronics, paint, and mercury-containing products.
- ◆ MPCA performs monitoring at more than 750 sites across the state to determine environmental conditions of air, surface waters, and ground water.
- ◆ MPCA continues to provide resources to local units of government to reduce waste generation and improve the cost effectiveness of recycling, composting and recovery programs.
- ◆ MPCA performs permitting, inspection, compliance determination, and enforcement at sites that impact air, water, and land. These efforts cover 2,800 sites for mobile and point air sources; 44,000 facilities and generators of solid and hazardous waste; and 47,000 wastewater, feedlots and stormwater sites.
- ◆ MPCA oversees state financed clean up at 265 contaminated sites and monitors clean up of an additional 3,000 sites.

The Prevention and Assistance Division provides information and economic, technical, and educational assistance that result in the implementation and increased use of environmentally and economically beneficial behaviors, technologies, and products. The Customer Assistance Center responds to requests for information and assistance from citizens. Small business assistance and pollution prevention services are also based in this division.

The Remediation Division provides emergency response and remediation (clean-up) services for contaminated sites, redevelopment projects and closed landfills. Superfund and leaking storage tank cleanup are also based in this division.

The Regional Division provides for environmental problem solving at the local level. The focus is on building local capacity to restore and improve the environment. Water quality planning and implementation programs are based in this division as well as the clean water partnership, feedlots, total maximum daily load (TMDL) implementation, and basin planning.

The Industrial Division provides regulatory services to industrial sources of air, water, and land pollution. Permitting, compliance, and enforcement for water and air quality, industrial solid waste, hazardous waste, and industrial stormwater are based in this division as well as associated rule-making activities.

The Municipal Division provides regulatory services to operators of publicly owned wastewater treatment and stormwater facilities. Services are also provided to mixed municipal landfills and transfer stations. The regulatory services include permitting, compliance, and enforcement.

The Operational Support Division oversees the MPCA's finances and its business operations (vehicle fleet, equipment and supplies, facilities and leasing, mail and shipping, and more), human resources processes and issues, and communication services. Division staff is mainly located in St. Paul.

The MPCA Citizens' Board acts on significant and controversial environmental issues.

Budget

Twenty or more years ago, environmental fees and taxes were created to fund regulatory programs that addressed point source pollution. More recently the MPCA has identified non-point sources as the major contributors to air and water pollution. Program costs to address non-point pollution do not readily align with the former fee structures. Fund consolidation, authorized by the legislature in 2003, enhanced the MPCA's funding flexibility and ability to direct resources to priority activities.

Authorized appropriations in FY 2006-07 for the MPCA's six programs totaled \$271.6 million. The mix of funding was 10% General Fund, 43% Environmental Fund, 20% Remediation Fund, 16% federal and 11% other sources.

Contact

For more information, contact: Leo Raudys, MPCA Deputy Commissioner, at (651) 296-7305.

In addition, visitors can learn more about environmental issues at www.pca.state.mn.us. The site contains information on pollution prevention, reuse, recycling, responsible waste management, sustainable practices, as well as access to regulatory news and updates, rules, public notices, agency initiatives, details about environmental quality and current "hot topics."

The MPCA's strategic plan can be accessed at www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/reports/strategicplan.html.

Dollars in Thousands

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium 2008-09
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	
<u>Direct Appropriations by Fund</u>					
Environment & Natural Resource					
Current Appropriation	300	300	300	300	600
Forecast Base	300	300	0	0	0
Change		0	(300)	(300)	(600)
% Biennial Change from 2006-07					-100%
General					
Current Appropriation	11,353	16,394	16,394	16,394	32,788
Forecast Base	11,353	16,394	11,364	11,364	22,728
Change		0	(5,030)	(5,030)	(10,060)
% Biennial Change from 2006-07					-18.1%
State Government Spec Revenue					
Current Appropriation	48	48	48	48	96
Forecast Base	48	48	48	48	96
Change		0	0	0	0
% Biennial Change from 2006-07					0%
Environmental					
Current Appropriation	55,719	56,026	56,026	56,026	112,052
Forecast Base	55,719	56,026	56,026	56,026	112,052
Change		0	0	0	0
% Biennial Change from 2006-07					0.3%
Remediation Fund					
Current Appropriation	13,404	11,404	11,404	11,404	22,808
Forecast Base	13,404	11,404	11,404	11,404	22,808
Change		0	0	0	0
% Biennial Change from 2006-07					-8.1%
<u>Expenditures by Fund</u>					
Direct Appropriations					
Environment & Natural Resource	440	319	0	0	0
General	10,024	17,550	11,364	11,364	22,728
State Government Spec Revenue	27	69	48	48	96
Environmental	51,022	60,595	56,026	56,026	112,052
Remediation Fund	10,513	12,095	11,404	11,404	22,808
Statutory Appropriations					
Clean Water Revolving Fund	3,215	5,018	4,064	4,064	8,128
State Government Spec Revenue	1	1	1	1	2
Misc Special Revenue	13,501	16,465	13,422	13,535	26,957
Federal	19,255	28,559	21,091	21,913	43,004
Environmental	971	2,514	2,479	2,479	4,958
Remediation Fund	32,203	36,510	23,254	26,954	50,208
Miscellaneous Agency	78	0	0	0	0
Gift	2	22	11	11	22
Total	141,252	179,717	143,164	147,799	290,963

Dollars in Thousands

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	2008-09
<u>Expenditures by Category</u>					
Total Compensation	59,148	65,081	62,959	64,492	127,451
Other Operating Expenses	55,707	80,534	53,001	54,593	107,594
Capital Outlay & Real Property	1,099	20	20	20	40
Local Assistance	22,862	29,359	23,608	25,118	48,726
Other Financial Transactions	2,436	4,523	3,376	3,376	6,752
Transfers	0	200	200	200	400
Total	141,252	179,717	143,164	147,799	290,963
<u>Expenditures by Program</u>					
Water	31,976	52,654	36,814	38,202	75,016
Air	9,281	12,041	10,324	10,331	20,655
Land	52,602	59,889	45,353	48,487	93,840
Multimedia	14,206	16,950	15,096	15,096	30,192
Administrative Support	13,161	16,056	13,801	13,907	27,708
Environmental Assistance	20,026	22,127	21,776	21,776	43,552
Total	141,252	179,717	143,164	147,799	290,963
Full-Time Equivalentents (FTE)	806.3	854.0	820.7	813.3	

Program Description

The Water Program protects and improves Minnesota's rivers, lakes, wetlands, and ground water so they support healthy aquatic life and human health. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) receives its authority through delegation of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state statutes.

The MPCA establishes designated uses for each water body, such as swimming, drinking, and fishing; sets standards for the pollutants that impact the designated use; and monitors these waters to determine if they meet standards.

The MPCA has water monitoring data for 16% of Minnesota's 12,000 largest lakes and 11% of its 9,000 stream reaches. However, data is sufficient to fully assess only 4% of lakes and 11% of streams for aquatic life or recreation to determine if they meet designated uses as required by the CWA. Approximately 60% meet the designated uses; those that do not are designated as "impaired" waters. Restoration plans are then developed and implemented for these waters.

The MPCA's mission is to prevent degradation of water quality in Minnesota surface waters and to establish plans to restore those identified as impaired. This is accomplished by regulating municipal and industrial discharges and failing septic systems, controlling stormwater runoff, permitting feedlots and ensuring compliance, and monitoring and assessing water quality to provide information upon which to make social, financial, technical, and environmental management decisions.

The strategic goals for the Water Program are/described below:

- ◆ assess the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of lakes, streams and wetlands to identify if designated uses are being met, and provide information on the condition of waters;
- ◆ maintain and enhance the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of Minnesota lakes, streams, and wetlands so that water quality standards and designated uses are met and degradation is prevented;
- ◆ restore the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of Minnesota lakes, streams, and wetlands that do not support designated uses;
- ◆ assess the condition of Minnesota's ground water systems; and
- ◆ prevent or reduce degradation and depletion of ground water.

Population Served

This program serves all citizens of the state by protecting Minnesota's lakes, streams, and wetlands from many kinds of pollution. The goal is to maintain the ability of Minnesotans to drink, fish, and swim in Minnesota's abundant water resources.

- ⇒ The program regulates a large and diverse array of business and municipal activities in Minnesota.
- ⇒ The program provides grants and loans to local units of government to address pollution problems such as urban and rural runoff and failing septic systems.
- ⇒ The program supports river basin management groups who receive financial and technical assistance from the MPCA.
- ⇒ The program forms partnerships so information regarding economic, health, and recreational concerns are considered in decision-making.

Program at a Glance

- ◆ Development of restoration plans for 2,250 impairments on lakes, rivers and streams and preservation of high quality waters via a basin/watershed approach
- ◆ Stormwater program development, permitting, compliance determination, and enforcement for ~240 municipalities, 1,650 industrial facilities, and ~4,000 construction projects per year.
- ◆ Water quality point source permitting, compliance determination and enforcement
- ◆ Water quality monitoring
- ◆ Animal feedlots permitting, compliance determination and enforcement
- ◆ Clean Water Partnership (grants to local units of government to improve water quality)
- ◆ Individual Sewage Treatment Systems (ISTS)

Services Provided

The water programs use a basin approach to deliver the following services:

Assess:

- ⇒ Monitor river and lake water quality through use of remote sensing and citizen volunteers.
- ⇒ Monitor long-term sites and those waters that have been identified as potentially not meeting their designated uses more intensely through water chemistry, biological integrity, and physical monitoring methods.
- ⇒ Assess monitoring data for water bodies for which the MPCA has adequate data to determine impairment status as required by the CWA.
- ⇒ Monitor ambient ground water quality at a limited number of sites around the state, working closely with the Minnesota Departments of Agriculture and Health.

Prevent/Protect:

- ⇒ Use critical data to set standards in water to protect Minnesota's waters, set priorities for treatment and set discharge limits.
- ⇒ Issue permits under the federal CWA, including inspections and enforcement follow-up as necessary for 663 industrial and 827 municipal facilities.
- ⇒ Develop and implement the Phase II stormwater program under the CWA that includes permitting, technical assistance, inspections, and enforcement follow-up as necessary for approximately 240 municipalities, 1,650 industrial facilities, and 4,000 construction projects per year.
- ⇒ Issue permits under the federal CWA and state law for over 1,000 animal feedlots, including inspections and enforcement follow-up as necessary, and oversee 30,000 feedlots registered under state law, administered by the MPCA and county governments.

Restore/Improve:

- ⇒ Develop watershed plans to address water quality problems.
- ⇒ Provide grant and loan funds to clean up pollution from urban and rural runoff, individual sewage treatment upgrades, and feedlot upgrades at over 350 project sites in the past five years.
- ⇒ Initiate over 58 Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) evaluations that address 259 impairments to determine sources of impairment. (To meet EPA requirement to complete TMDLs within 15 years of listing, the MPCA must have started TMDLs for 384 impairments).

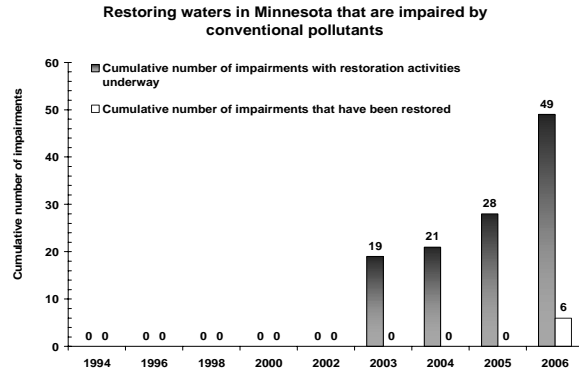
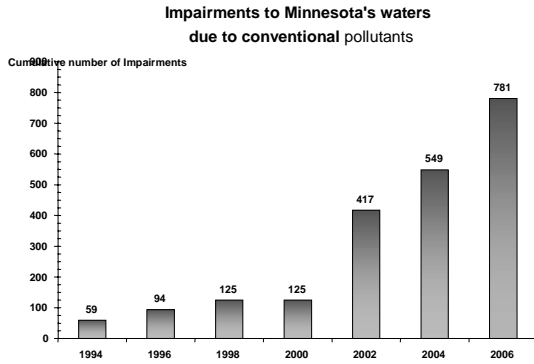
Historical Perspective

In the past, efforts were focused on regulating industrial and municipal discharges, with a special emphasis on municipal wastewater treatment facilities. At the time, this focus was appropriate because these sources were the largest controllable source of water pollution. Current emphasis is on gaining new efficiencies, particularly in the permitting and enforcement portions of the program and on improving integration with the Minnesota's interagency approach to impaired waters activities. Another focus is addressing the small un-sewered or under-sewered communities.

The MPCA continues to address dispersed sources of pollutants including stormwater runoff, individual septic systems, feedlots, and forestry. More emphasis and funding have been directed to these sources of pollutants reaching our waters. Although individual sources are often small, their cumulative impacts are significant. The emphasis placed on these sources does not replace the work that must continue to be directed at municipal and industrial sources.

The stormwater program experienced dramatic change with the issuance of federal Phase II stormwater regulations in 2003. The scope of the program virtually exploded as a result of new program provisions requiring permitting and oversight at construction projects greater than one acre. Equally significant was a recent court decision that eliminated the MPCA's ability to issue conventional general stormwater permits to municipalities. The MPCA must now "meaningfully review" and provide public notice on permit applications. The agency must also convene public meetings whenever the public requests them.

The CWA requires states to list impaired waters, and to develop and implement clean-up plans. The 2006 legislature passed the Clean Water Legacy Act and authorized funding for one year. The state has more than 2,250 impairments affecting 1,297 lakes and streams. Just over 64% of the impairments are attributed to mercury and other bio-accumulative pollutants.



Key Measures

The MPCA assesses waters and lists the impaired waters every two years in accordance with the CWA. Once listed, the MPCA must identify all sources of pollutants causing poor water quality and allocate responsibility for addressing the impairment in a TMDL. Once the TMDL is complete, the MPCA works with stakeholders to restore the water body so it meets its designated use. As of July 2006, the MPCA has completed five studies addressing 49 conventional impairments and is implementing clean-up efforts. In addition, the MPCA has 58 TMDLs addressing 259 conventional impairments underway to determine the sources of impairment. As of July 2006, the MPCA also has a TMDL underway that addresses 512 mercury impairments.

Over the past ten years, the MPCA has significantly reduced the number of expired wastewater permits awaiting re-issuance. By streamlining permit reviews, setting individual and programmatic performance goals, and equalizing the number of permits issued each year to balance the workload throughout the five-year permitting cycle, the MPCA issues about 93% of wastewater permits on time.

Program Funding

Authorized appropriations for the Water Program in FY 2006-07 totaled \$80.3 million. The funding mix: 45% Environmental Fund, 25% General Fund, 24% federal and 6% other sources.

During the past decade, the water program has experienced a variety of funding challenges. Revenues from water fees have not kept pace with inflation. Past MPCA requests for fee increases have not been approved by the legislature, and the budget pressures on the General Fund have reduced Water Program funding each year since FY 2003. Authorized transfers of funds from other sources have mitigated the imbalance between receipts, appropriations and the cost of Water Program activities.

The 2006 legislature authorized funding for the Clean Water Legacy Act as a one-year appropriation in FY 2007. This has allowed the MPCA to increase monitoring for one year, and to proceed on ten TMDLs.

Contact

For more information, contact John Holck, Assistant Division Director at (651) 297-7568 or toll-free at 1 (800) 657-3864.

The MPCA web site at: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us> provides useful information about Minnesota's environment. The types of information available through the site include regulatory news and updates, rules, public notices, agency initiatives, and details about environmental quality and current "hot topics."

POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Program: WATER

Narrative

For information on how the MPCA measures some of its efforts to meet statewide goals, please visit: <http://www.departmentresults.state.mn.us>.

Impaired waters reports to the legislature are located at: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/reports/lrwq-iw-1sy04.pdf> and <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/reports/lrwq-s-lsy03.pdf>.

POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Program: WATER

Program Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	2008-09
<u>Direct Appropriations by Fund</u>					
General					
Current Appropriation	7,506	12,547	12,547	12,547	25,094
Technical Adjustments					
One-time Appropriations			(5,030)	(5,030)	(10,060)
Forecast Base	7,506	12,547	7,517	7,517	15,034
State Government Spec Revenue					
Current Appropriation	48	48	48	48	96
Forecast Base	48	48	48	48	96
Environmental					
Current Appropriation	17,874	17,874	17,874	17,874	35,748
Forecast Base	17,874	17,874	17,874	17,874	35,748
<u>Expenditures by Fund</u>					
Direct Appropriations					
General	6,513	13,413	7,517	7,517	15,034
State Government Spec Revenue	27	69	48	48	96
Environmental	15,227	20,521	17,874	17,874	35,748
Statutory Appropriations					
Clean Water Revolving Fund	3,215	5,018	4,064	4,064	8,128
Misc Special Revenue	71	80	0	0	0
Federal	6,923	13,546	7,311	8,699	16,010
Environmental	0	7	0	0	0
Total	31,976	52,654	36,814	38,202	75,016
<u>Expenditures by Category</u>					
Total Compensation	16,860	19,711	18,565	19,217	37,782
Other Operating Expenses	5,865	15,902	8,258	7,456	15,714
Local Assistance	7,058	13,113	6,991	8,529	15,520
Other Financial Transactions	2,193	3,928	3,000	3,000	6,000
Total	31,976	52,654	36,814	38,202	75,016
<u>Expenditures by Activity</u>					
Water	31,976	52,654	36,814	38,202	75,016
Total	31,976	52,654	36,814	38,202	75,016
Full-Time Equivalents (FTE)	240.7	273.5	247.8	246.8	

Program Description

The state's air quality is affected by pollution from transportation, energy production, manufacturing, and other activities. Clean and clear air, however, is essential for Minnesota's environmental, social, and economic well-being and is also required by state and federal law. The federal Clean Air Act (CAA) is the national environmental framework for these requirements, and it is the foundation of Minnesota's air quality program.

The CAA was amended in 1990, which dramatically expanded the air program in Minnesota and nationwide by allowing assessment of air emission fees, new permit and compliance requirements, and activities to control emissions of hazardous air pollutants. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA's) major activities in implementing the CAA include tracking emissions from point, area, and mobile sources of pollution, monitoring ambient air, issuing and tracking compliance with air emission permits. In addition, the CAA amendments created programs for smaller pollution sources and vehicles that contribute significantly to air problems.

Another pollutant of special concern in Minnesota is mercury. When released to the air, mercury falls onto surface waters and accumulates in fish tissue, resulting in fish consumption advisories for many Minnesota lakes and streams. The MPCA is implementing new initiatives to reduce mercury emissions. Newer Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) programs also include strategies for reducing regional haze and fine particulate matter.

Finally, the potential impacts of climate change on the Minnesota environment and economy are receiving more attention. The MPCA is evaluating strategies to mitigate climate change and will be talking with citizens, stakeholders and other state agencies regarding options. However, a key strategy already endorsed by the MPCA is expanding the development of renewable energy production: wind, ethanol, biomass, and other technologies.

The agency's strategic goals for this program are:

- ◆ Minnesota's outdoor air quality will meet or improve upon all environmental and human health-related federal and state ambient air quality standards;
- ◆ Minnesota's outdoor air quality will meet environmental and human health benchmarks for toxic and other air pollutants; and
- ◆ Minnesota will reduce its contribution to regional, national and global air pollution.

Population Served

This program serves all citizens and industrial operations of the state to facilitate protection of public health and wellbeing while allowing the operation of industries, utilities and transportation systems that contribute to the social and economic well being of the state.

As a result of their daily activities, citizens are responsible for large amounts of air pollution. In fact, about half of the air pollutants in Minnesota are emitted from mobile sources, which include automobiles, trucks, buses, recreational, and lawn equipment. More information about air quality in Minnesota is available on the MPCA Web site at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/air/index.html>.

This program also regulates industrial sources of air pollution. At present, there are more than 4,000 facilities that need some type of air permit. Of those, 350 are large enough to need a federal air quality permit, a program that has been delegated to the MPCA for implementation.

Program at a Glance

- ◆ Implementing air quality point source permitting, compliance determination, and enforcement.
- ◆ Developing and implementing strategies to reduce air pollution from small sources of air pollution – including mobile sources.
- ◆ Monitoring air quality, tracking the Air Quality Index (AQI).
- ◆ Developing and implementing ozone and particulate matter reduction efforts.
- ◆ Developing and implementing strategies to reduce regional and global air pollutants such as mercury, regional haze, and emissions that contribute to climate change.
- ◆ Issuing permits to companies building new or expanding existing facilities.

Proper implementation of air programs is important to public health and wellbeing, especially for sensitive groups of citizens (e.g., the very young and very old, people who suffer from asthma, heart disease). Because of how pollutants are drawn deeply into the lungs during exercise, even healthy, active kids and adults are susceptible to the harmful effects of air pollution.

Services Provided

Assess:

- ◆ monitor the air quality index and ensure compliance with ambient air quality standards using monitors in eight cities;
- ◆ monitor for toxic air pollutants at 20 locations;
- ◆ develop annual emission inventories for 2,300 companies that hold MPCA air quality permits; and
- ◆ conduct air emission risk analysis for about 20 point sources each year.

Restore/Improve:

- ◆ develop state implementation plans for maintaining and improving air quality;
- ◆ participate in multi-state regional air planning efforts to reduce regional haze, ozone, and fine particulate matter;
- ◆ reduce emissions of pollutants that contribute to regional haze, ozone, fine particulate matter, and toxic air pollutants; and
- ◆ reduce emissions that contribute to climate change.

Prevent/Protect:

- ◆ issue and maintain federal and state air quality permits;
- ◆ issue construction permits for new and expanding facilities;
- ◆ monitor compliance with air quality rules, regulations, and permits;
- ◆ take enforcement action as warranted;
- ◆ measure the daily air quality index for the Twin Cities, Duluth, Rochester, Marshall, Brainerd, Detroit Lakes, Ely, and St. Cloud and issue alerts when needed;
- ◆ implement the 2006 legislation to control utility mercury emissions;
- ◆ complete a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) analysis and implement a plan for mercury reduction; and
- ◆ develop a method for capping or controlling new sources of mercury.

Historical Perspective

One of the major changes in the Clean Air Act was the creation of a national permit program (Title V) for large emitters of air pollutants. In Minnesota, operating permits for existing large facilities have been issued and require renewal on a five year cycle. The MPCA also has placed a high priority on construction permits for new and expanding facilities. The strong economy of the past few years has added to the number of companies looking to build or expand operations. Nine mining expansion projects are currently underway; three of which include state and federal Environmental Impact Statements reviews in addition to water, air and land permit activities. Nearly a dozen ethanol production projects are also underway. MPCA expects eight more permit requests to expand operations at 16 existing plants will be submitted in the next nine months. Ethanol projects require air modeling, air permitting, water permitting, environmental review, and coordination with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to ensure timely environmental decision-making. More complex rules and regulations and a more engaged public have increased the complexity and time needed to issue air permits. Collectively these factors put increased demand on agency permitting resources.

In 2001, for the first time since the 1970s, the MPCA issued air quality alerts in the Twin Cities due to levels of ozone (smog), and fine particulate matter pollution exceeding health advisory thresholds (see figure on page 3). Daily air quality readings are available on the MPCA web site at <http://aqi.pca.state.mn.us/hourly/>.

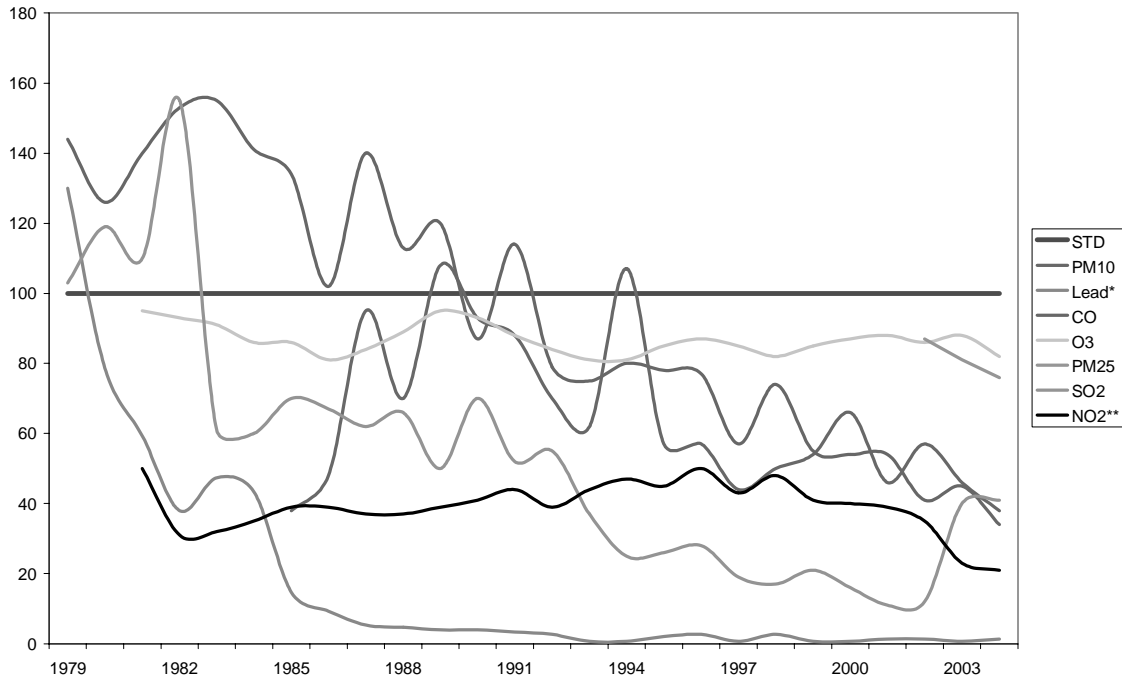
The air quality alerts have raised concerns that the Twin Cities area may fall out of compliance with federal air quality standards for ozone and/or fine particulate matter (see figure on page 3). If this happened, new regulations for industry would be required and additional regulatory action by the MPCA needed. To keep the

Twin Cities in compliance, the MPCA is actively working to reduce emissions that contribute to ozone formation and fine particulate matter.

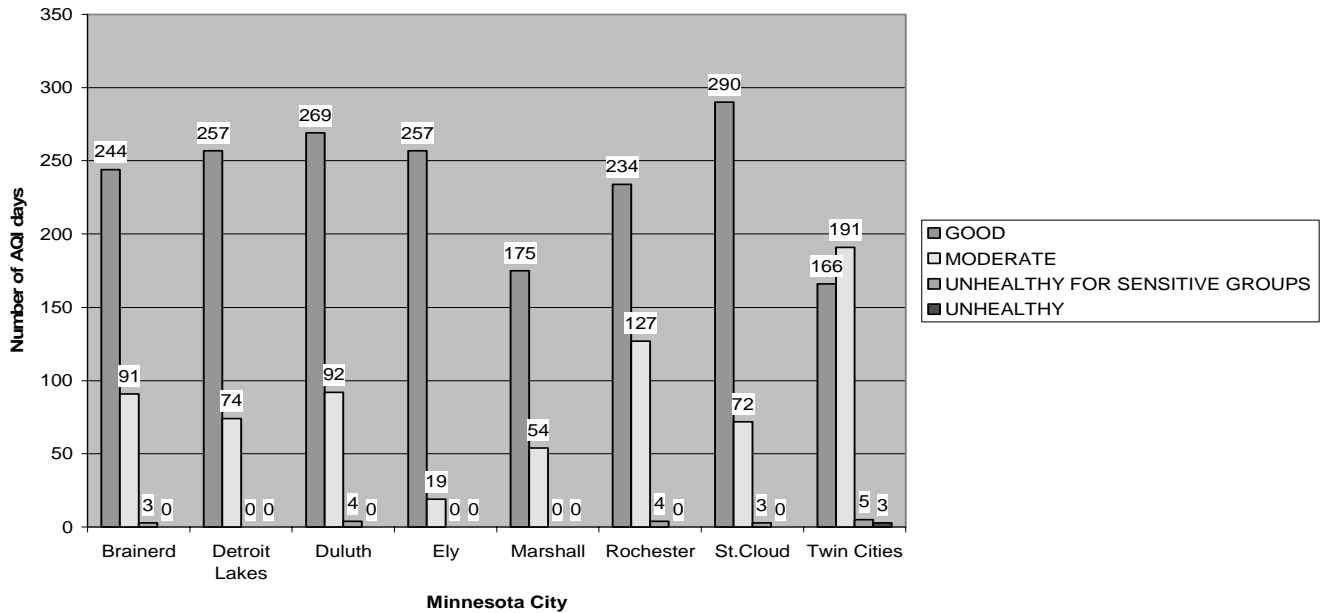
Key Measures

The following graphs show trends in key air pollutants in the Twin Cities area and the number of days that air quality in Minnesota cities was good, moderate and unhealthy for sensitive groups in 2005.

Trends in Key Air Pollutants in Twin Cities 1979-2004



**Minnesota 2005
AQI Days by AQI Category
and City
Figure 2**



Program Funding

Authorized appropriations in FY 2006-07 for MPCA’s Air program totaled \$20.4 million with 95% from the Environmental Fund, 4% federal and 1% from other sources.

Contact

For more information, contact Myrna Halbach at (651) 296-8399 or toll-free at 1 (800) 657-3864.

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For information on how the MPCA measures some of its efforts to meet statewide goals, please visit <http://www.departmentresults.state.mn.us>.

POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Program: AIR

Program Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	2008-09
<u>Direct Appropriations by Fund</u>					
Environmental					
Current Appropriation	9,297	9,604	9,604	9,604	19,208
Forecast Base	9,297	9,604	9,604	9,604	19,208
<u>Expenditures by Fund</u>					
Direct Appropriations					
Environmental	8,319	10,567	9,604	9,604	19,208
Statutory Appropriations					
Misc Special Revenue	378	637	150	157	307
Federal	425	437	370	370	740
Environmental	159	400	200	200	400
Total	9,281	12,041	10,324	10,331	20,655
<u>Expenditures by Category</u>					
Total Compensation	6,402	7,887	7,680	7,920	15,600
Other Operating Expenses	2,677	3,756	2,446	2,213	4,659
Capital Outlay & Real Property	9	0	0	0	0
Local Assistance	50	0	0	0	0
Other Financial Transactions	143	398	198	198	396
Total	9,281	12,041	10,324	10,331	20,655
<u>Expenditures by Activity</u>					
Air	9,281	12,041	10,324	10,331	20,655
Total	9,281	12,041	10,324	10,331	20,655
Full-Time Equivalents (FTE)	85.4	100.7	102.0	100.2	

Program Description

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA's) Land Program protects the environment, public health, and quality of life of all citizens by cleaning up contaminated land sites, preventing future contamination, encouraging waste utilization through reuse, recycling and reduction, and protecting ground water. The land programs have been developed through federal mandates and state initiatives to address various waste management issues.

The MPCA's strategic plan establishes a vision for the agency's land programs:

- ◆ conserve resources and prevent land pollution that reduces options for desired land use;
- ◆ minimize the release of contaminants to or from the land; and
- ◆ restore contaminated land to productive use.

The Land Program also assists other MPCA programs in meeting their strategic goals:

- ◆ assess the condition of Minnesota's ground water systems;
- ◆ prevent or reduce degradation and depletion of ground water; and
- ◆ reduce Minnesota's contribution to regional air pollution.

The program's integrated system of activities is designed to ensure that hazardous materials, petroleum products, and solid wastes are managed properly throughout the life cycle of their use, transport, and disposal. The Land Program will continue to focus on prevention activities in the next biennium.

Population Served

Because this program serves to protect Minnesotans from harmful effects of improperly managed waste and contaminated land and ground water, it serves all citizens of the state. It specifically affects people that live in the vicinity of a contaminated site, a spill incident or a facility that stores petroleum products, hazardous materials, or manages solid waste.

This program also interacts with a large and diverse array of businesses and industries in Minnesota. The list below provides a snapshot of those relationships and interactions:

- ◆ owners of above or underground storage tank facilities including 1,500 – 2,000 active investigations or cleanups annually and closure of 14,000 sites by the end of FY 2006, 12,000 tank owners and more than 90 owners of large above ground storage tanks (with a storage volume over one million gallons) who are required to obtain a permit;
- ◆ hazardous waste-related businesses and industries including 9,000 hazardous waste handlers, 25 treatment, storage and disposal facilities, 250 large quantity generators, 400 small quantity generators, and 15,000 very small quantity generators;
- ◆ solid waste land disposal facilities including 38 permitted facilities owned by business and municipalities for mixed municipal/industrial waste; 102 demolition debris disposal facilities; 107 transfer stations and about 38 miscellaneous facilities that treat, store, or dispose of solid waste;
- ◆ citizens and businesses with 2,300 emergency spills reported annually;
- ◆ parties responsible for 97 active Superfund sites, with 132 sites already cleaned up;
- ◆ industries submitting 200 voluntary investigation and cleanup applications annually; and
- ◆ solid waste industries that currently recycle 40% of the state's garbage and burn 20% of it for energy. (Minnesota's recycling industries contribute an estimated \$2.98 billion to the state's economy.)

Program at a Glance

- ◆ Permitting, compliance determination, and enforcement for solid waste, hazardous waste and large above-ground storage tank facilities
- ◆ Training and regulation for storage tank leak prevention
- ◆ Emergency response to pollutant spills
- ◆ Cleanup programs to address hazardous waste and petroleum product releases including:
 - ⇒ Superfund
 - ⇒ Voluntary Investigation and Cleanup (VIC)
 - ⇒ Petroleum Remediation (PRP)
- ◆ Closed Landfill Remediation and Management (CLP)
- ◆ Programs for using waste as a resource

Services Provided**Assess:**

- ⇒ Partners with metropolitan counties to license hazardous waste handlers and monitor hazardous wastes "cradle to grave" via a computerized system.
- ⇒ Coordinates with local government to prepare a biennial solid waste policy report that summarizes the current status of solid waste management in the state.

Prevent/Protect:

- ⇒ Distributes grant funds to counties to operate recycling and waste reduction programs and to manage programs for problem materials and household hazardous wastes.
- ⇒ Works in partnership with counties to reduce waste generation, improve the cost effectiveness of recycling, composting and recovery systems and build stronger regional waste management systems.
- ⇒ Conducts regulatory and training programs to prevent the release of petroleum, solid waste, and hazardous waste into Minnesota's soil, ground water and surface water.
- ⇒ Issues permits to and inspects solid waste, hazardous waste, and large above ground storage tank facilities to ensure compliance as necessary.
- ⇒ Oversees disposal of debris when natural disasters strike and prepares contingency plans for debris management (e.g. debris resulting from terrorist activities).

Restore/Improve:

- ⇒ Undertakes directly or oversees investigations and corrective actions by responsible parties at petroleum release sites and provides expedited assistance when requested. This action includes working with the state Petroleum Board on reimbursement issues.
- ⇒ Hires contractors to conduct site investigations and complete risk-based corrective actions at Superfund sites.
- ⇒ Assists developers in returning contaminated sites to productive use through its Voluntary Inspection and Cleanup Program.
- ⇒ Hires contractors to conduct cleanups at closed landfills (112) and recovers as much of the cleanup cost as possible from insurance policies held by the landfill owners.

Historical Perspective

In the past, thousands of locations across the state posed acute or potential risks to land and ground water due to spilling, dumping, or poor management of wastes and petroleum products. From the mid-1970s through the mid-1990s, Congress and the state legislature provided legal authority to the MPCA to ensure risks to the environment and citizens were eliminated or controlled. Now, due to the network of land program activities within the MPCA, risks from contaminant releases to the land have been greatly reduced or controlled, and an infrastructure exists to ensure they remain so.

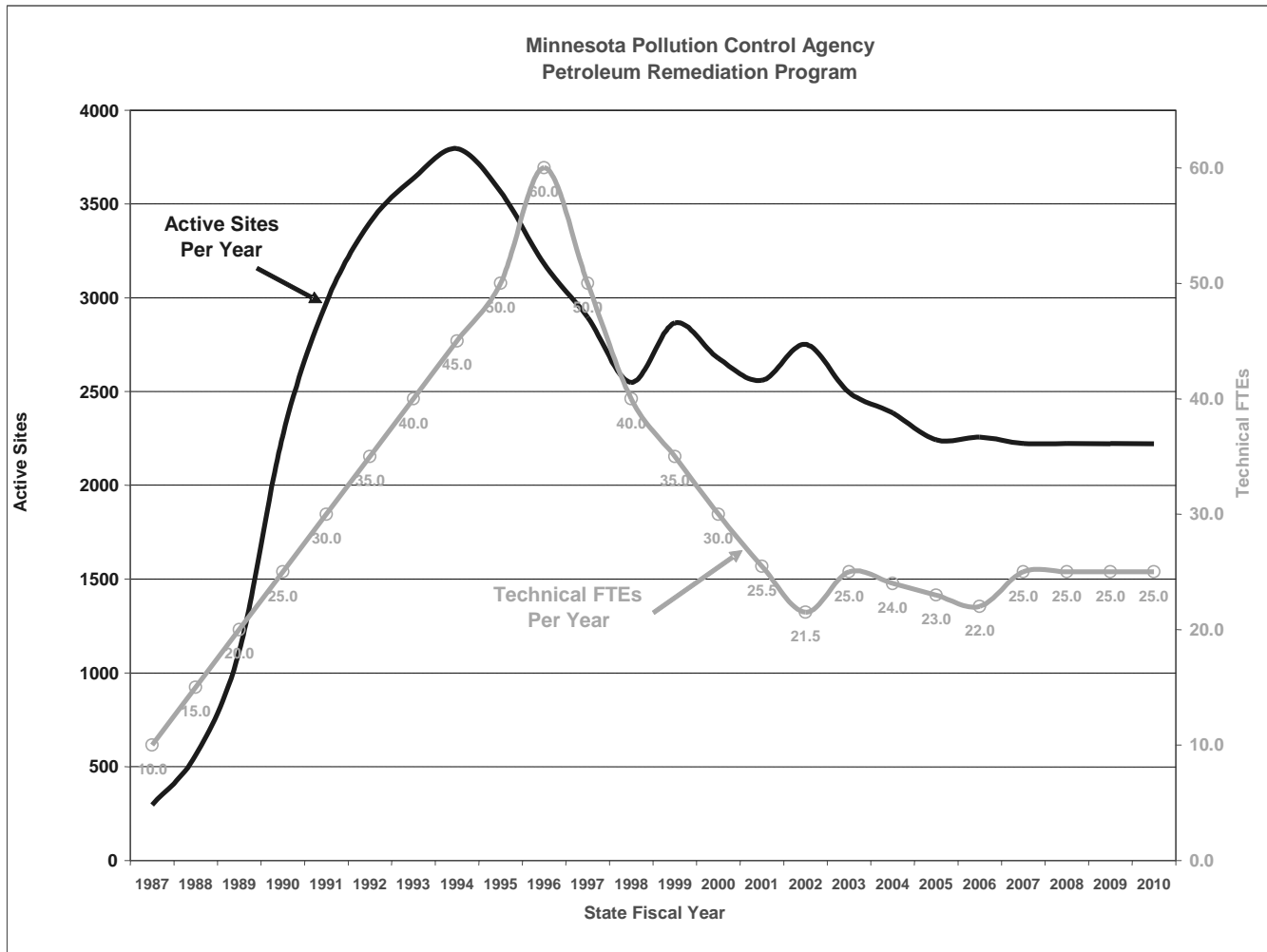
On 8-8-2005 President Bush signed the Energy Policy Act of 2005 that significantly affects the petroleum underground storage tank program (UST). The UST provisions of the Energy Act focus on preventing petroleum releases through increased inspections, operator training, delivery prohibitions, and secondary containment technology. MPCA may need to change how it conducts its tank programs to meet the new federal mandates.

The hazardous waste program has fulfilled its original purpose of keeping waste generated by large handlers out of the environment. The challenge now is to maintain past gains working with large facilities while improving hazardous waste management by small generators.

The MPCA continues to make progress cleaning up contaminated sites through five remediation programs: Superfund, Voluntary Investigation and Cleanup program (VIC), Resource Recovery and Conservation Act Corrective Action Program, Closed Landfill Program (CLP), and Petroleum Remediation Program (PRP). More details about these programs are available on the MPCA web site at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/cleanup/index.html>.

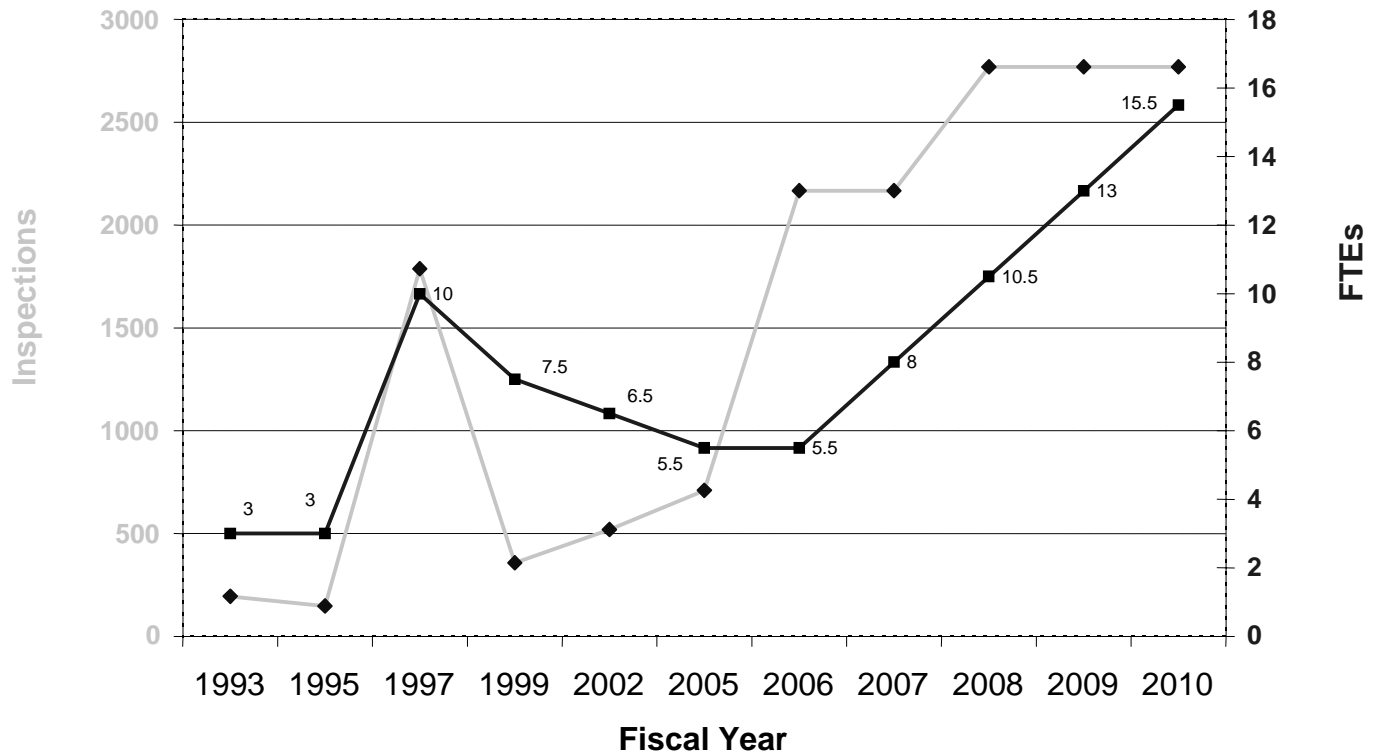
Key Measures

The following graph shows the progress made over the last 19 years in addressing PRP release sites and the projected workload through the year 2010. This graph also shows changes in staffing and “maintenance level” staffing proposed for the future.



The graph below shows the progress of the UST inspecting storage tank sites in the state. This graph also shows the estimated number of future inspections required by the new federal energy bill and staffing associated with this mandate.

UST Compliance Program



Program Funding

Authorized appropriations in FY 2006-07 for the Land Program totaled \$76.0 million including funds from the Remediation Fund (72%), the Environmental Fund(19%), federal funds (8%) and other sources (1%)

Contact

For more information, contact Kathy Sather at (651) 296-6676 or toll-free at 1 (800) 657-3864.

The MPCA web site at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us> provides useful information about Minnesota’s environment including regulatory news and updates, rules, public notices, agency initiatives, details about environmental quality, and current “hot topics.”

For information on how this agency measures some of its efforts to meet statewide goals, please visit <http://www.departmentresults.state.mn.us>.

POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Program: LAND

Program Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	2008-09
<u>Direct Appropriations by Fund</u>					
Environmental					
Current Appropriation	7,065	7,065	7,065	7,065	14,130
Forecast Base	7,065	7,065	7,065	7,065	14,130
Remediation Fund					
Current Appropriation	13,404	11,404	11,404	11,404	22,808
Forecast Base	13,404	11,404	11,404	11,404	22,808
<u>Expenditures by Fund</u>					
Direct Appropriations					
Environmental	6,571	7,425	7,065	7,065	14,130
Remediation Fund	10,513	12,095	11,404	11,404	22,808
Statutory Appropriations					
Misc Special Revenue	621	568	415	415	830
Federal	2,822	3,395	3,319	2,753	6,072
Remediation Fund	32,075	36,406	23,150	26,850	50,000
Total	52,602	59,889	45,353	48,487	93,840
<u>Expenditures by Category</u>					
Total Compensation	13,581	14,921	14,489	14,697	29,186
Other Operating Expenses	37,283	44,151	30,047	32,973	63,020
Capital Outlay & Real Property	1,058	20	20	20	40
Local Assistance	680	597	597	597	1,194
Transfers	0	200	200	200	400
Total	52,602	59,889	45,353	48,487	93,840
<u>Expenditures by Activity</u>					
Land	52,602	59,889	45,353	48,487	93,840
Total	52,602	59,889	45,353	48,487	93,840
Full-Time Equivalents (FTE)	181.2	184.0	180.0	179.6	

Program Description

Multimedia activities provide scientific and technical support to staff throughout the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to assist them in meeting the goals outlined in the MPCA’s strategic plan. Such support allows MPCA to provide assistance to protect natural resources, regulate pollution sources when necessary, and effectively clean up contaminated sites to restore beneficial uses. Multimedia program staff assess the impact of pollutants on all media — air, water, and land — rather than each media in isolation. The program collects data on environmental conditions and presents the data in a form that is useful to MPCA, policy makers, and the public.

Program at a Glance

- ◆ Policy evaluation and development
- ◆ Environmental review of proposed projects
- ◆ Training of the regulated community
- ◆ Assessing environmental impacts to support regulatory and cleanup project decisions including monitoring and oversight of discharge standards, effluent limits, air quality modeling risk review, ecological risk assessment, fish kill investigations, and others
- ◆ Mercury reduction strategies

Multimedia program staff evaluates the environmental risk of proposed projects and identifies pollution trends and emerging environmental issues. Program activities include maintaining authorization to run federal programs, enacting new rules, and seeking statutory changes.

Population Served

- ⇒ Area residents benefit from assessments of environmental impact (discharge standards, effluent limits, air quality modeling review, risk assessment, ecological risk assessment, fish kill investigations, and others).
- ⇒ Local citizens and decision-makers at all levels of government use the data collected at monitoring sites operated by the MPCA: 156 air quality monitors at 69 statewide locations monitor a variety of parameters including ozone, particulates, 57 volatile organics compounds, 16 metals, mercury deposition, regional haze, and others. Approximately 500 water monitoring sites aid in the assessment of 8% of the state’s 92,000 miles of streams and 14% of the 13.1 million acres of surface waters.
- ⇒ Regulated parties receive training; Multimedia staff trained more than 3,600 people last year.
- ⇒ Industry receives assistance on pollution prevention and innovative projects.
- ⇒ Stakeholder groups are given the opportunity to express their opinions through customer research on new programs, budget development, process improvement, specific projects, and others.

Services Provided

Multimedia environmental activities include the following services:

Assess:

- ◆ analyze data on the condition of the environment, identify the stressors that impact the environment, and describe trends. This activity processes the data in a way of value to MPCA, policy makers and citizens. For example, a recently completed study describes the various sources of phosphorus in the state.
- ◆ conduct environmental assessments that help affected persons understand the potential impact of a proposed project
- ◆ complete environmental reviews that allow permittees, including local government, to initiate requested projects (75 environmental reviews were completed over the past two years)
- ◆ conduct public participation efforts aimed at learning the environmental values and views of citizens

Restore/Improve:

- ◆ develop intervention strategies to correct undesirable environmental conditions
- ◆ implement the mercury reduction initiative and other mercury control programs

Prevent/Protect:

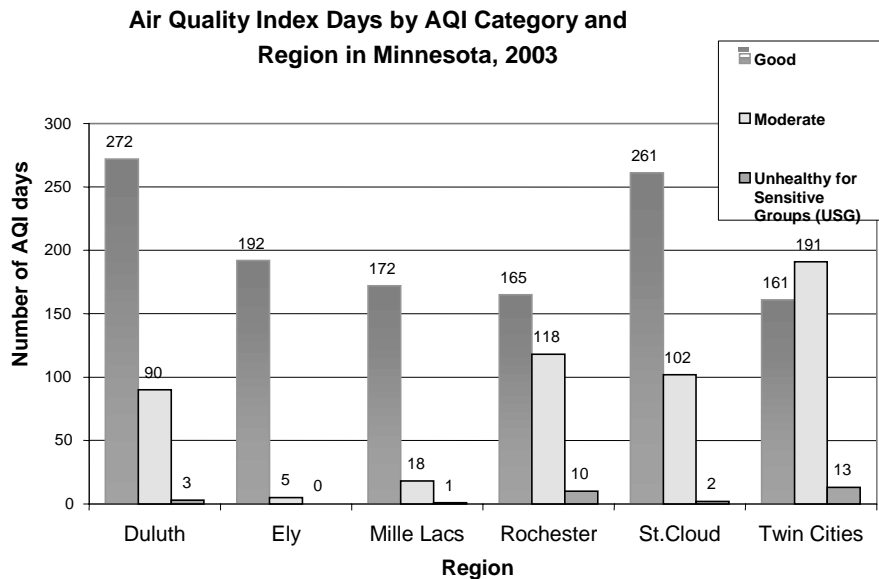
- ◆ set standards in water, air, and land to assess and identify pollution, set priorities for treatment and cleanup actions, and establish discharge and emission limits. One approach in standards development is setting Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for an impaired water body, an approach that identifies sources of pollutants and how much each source must reduce its contribution to a water body to meet water quality standards. A list of impaired water bodies was prepared based on monitoring data.

- ◆ conduct risk evaluations and provide technical support to regulatory activities
- ◆ provide data analysis, and develop reduction and prevention strategies that focus on preventing pollution
- ◆ develop administrative and technical rules to meet minimum federal program standards to maintain state authorization to run federal programs and to address environmental issues (five rules were completed over the past two years, and four obsolete rules were repealed)

Historical Perspective

The MPCA has made good progress in environmental protection since the 1960s and continues to maintain ongoing regulatory activities. Minnesotans now need to address the next generation of environmental challenges—everyday human activities, the cumulative effects of which present significant environmental problems. Addressing these issues requires new approaches to solving and preventing problems. Multimedia staff provides data and information to support environmental permitting and cleanup decisions as well as develop intervention, reduction, and prevention strategies.

Key Measures



Program Funding

Authorized appropriations in FY2006-07 for MPCA’s Multimedia program totaled \$26.4 million with 17% from the General Fund, 60% federal, 15% from the Environmental Fund and 8% from other sources.

Contact

For more information, contact Dave Benke, Assistant Division Director at (651) 215-0196 or toll-free at 1 (800) 657-3864.

The MPCA web site at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us> provides useful information about Minnesota’s environment including regulatory news and updates, rules, public notices, MPCA initiatives, details about environmental quality and current “hot topics.”

For information on how the MPCA measures its efforts to meet statewide goals, please visit <http://www.departmentresults.state.mn.us>.

POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Program: MULTIMEDIA

Program Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	2008-09
<u>Direct Appropriations by Fund</u>					
Environment & Natural Resource					
Current Appropriation	300	300	300	300	600
Technical Adjustments					
One-time Appropriations			(300)	(300)	(600)
Forecast Base	300	300	0	0	0
General					
Current Appropriation	2,264	2,264	2,264	2,264	4,528
Forecast Base	2,264	2,264	2,264	2,264	4,528
Environmental					
Current Appropriation	2,041	2,041	2,041	2,041	4,082
Forecast Base	2,041	2,041	2,041	2,041	4,082
<u>Expenditures by Fund</u>					
Direct Appropriations					
Environment & Natural Resource	440	319	0	0	0
General	2,190	2,433	2,264	2,264	4,528
Environmental	1,864	2,218	2,041	2,041	4,082
Statutory Appropriations					
Misc Special Revenue	644	812	700	700	1,400
Federal	9,068	11,168	10,091	10,091	20,182
Total	14,206	16,950	15,096	15,096	30,192
<u>Expenditures by Category</u>					
Total Compensation	10,699	10,424	10,428	10,657	21,085
Other Operating Expenses	3,205	6,237	4,553	4,339	8,892
Capital Outlay & Real Property	32	0	0	0	0
Local Assistance	270	289	115	100	215
Total	14,206	16,950	15,096	15,096	30,192
<u>Expenditures by Activity</u>					
Multimedia	14,206	16,950	15,096	15,096	30,192
Total	14,206	16,950	15,096	15,096	30,192
Full-Time Equivalents (FTE)	145.9	140.1	140.3	138.1	

Program Description

The Administrative Support program provides business services for Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA's) environmental program delivery from the St. Paul and regional offices. Administrative Support includes the Commissioner's Office, legislative relations, accounting and financial management, human resources and development, information systems management, communication, and business systems. Expenses for the MPCA Citizens' Board are also paid from within this program.

The activities under this program directly support the Excellence in Operations goals from the MPCA's strategic plan:

- ◆ provide a safe and healthy workplace for all employees, volunteers and visitors;
- ◆ manage agency operations as a system for efficiency and effectiveness; and
- ◆ achieve excellence through application of world class tools and best practices

Program at a Glance

- ◆ The MPCA Citizens' Board resolves certain controversial matters in the MPCA's regulatory work.
- ◆ The Commissioner's Office sets the strategic direction for the MPCA.
- ◆ Financial management, human resources, training and development, information management, communication, and business systems support all environmental programs of the MPCA.

Population Served

Administrative Support programs directly serve MPCA environmental programs by providing the underlying information and management systems necessary for the functioning of the agency. In addition to the internal customers, the work of Administrative Support directly serves Minnesota citizens. The MPCA Citizens' Board makes important environmental decisions that ultimately affect individuals, citizen and environmental groups, local governments, business, and industry. MPCA's information and communication services, including the web site, environmental publications, events and public involvement processes, provide environmental information directly to Minnesota citizens.

Services Provided

- ⇒ The Citizens' Board makes decisions on complex pollution problems. The Board also provides a venue for public participation in key environmental decisions.
- ⇒ The Commissioner's Office provides leadership and strategic direction for the MPCA to plan and carry out its work.
- ⇒ Communication provides public information, media relations, community involvement, coordination of public outreach events, and publication management.
- ⇒ The Customer Assistance Center answers questions from regulated parties and the public.
- ⇒ Information Systems maintains large volumes of data and makes it accessible to agency staff and, through the web site, to the public.
- ⇒ MPCA's cost-effective and environmentally sound business practices include purchasing alternative technology vehicles, using recycled office supplies, and participating in a building-wide recycling effort.
- ⇒ Fiscal Services ensures that funds are spent for authorized purposes and financial resources are managed according to general government accounting practices
- ⇒ Human Resources and Organizational Development support human resource management issues and individual and group development needs for MPCA employees.

Historical Perspective

Effective July 2005, the legislature approved combining the existing staff, authorities and expertise of the MPCA and the Office of Environmental Assistance (OEA). From an administrative perspective combining the OEA and the MPCA has given the public improved access to combined databases and web sites and offered the administrative efficiencies inherent in combining separate computer, financial, and business systems. More importantly, combining the OEA and the MPCA has united and focused the priorities of the two organizations.

In order to provide flexibility in operating environmental programs, the 2003 legislature authorized the consolidation of multiple accounts into two funds. The majority of the fees the MPCA collects are deposited into

the two funds -- the Environmental Fund and the Remediation Fund -- allowing the MPCA to use the funds on water, air, and land programs. This flexibility along with a federal grant consolidation has allowed the MPCA to address needs in priority program areas.

Key Measures

The MPCA manages its fiscal resources and business systems:

- ⇒ In the first two quarters of 2006, the MPCA met its state and federal financial deadlines 100% of the time, and 99% of payments were made on time and within statutory requirements.
- ⇒ In the first two quarters of 2006, 80% of new vehicles leased or purchased by the agency use alternative fuels, exceeding the federal standard.

The MPCA provides environmental information to citizens:

- ⇒ In the first two quarters of 2006, the agency reached 25,000 citizens through its quarterly *Minnesota Environment* magazine, nearly 4,300 citizens through a variety of subject-specific electronic newsletters, and potentially reached millions of Minnesotans with its proactive news releases on environmental topics.
- ⇒ The MPCA's new state fair building expects to reach more than 250,000 visitors with key environmental messages in 2006.
- ⇒ The Customer Assistance Center responded to more than 8,000 inquiries in 2005 with 9% of the responses made within 24 hours.

The MPCA provides secure information systems and a usable website.

- ⇒ In 2005, there were more than six million pages viewed by users on the MPCA web sites.

The MPCA manages its human resources.

- ⇒ In the first two quarters of 2006, the MPCA had a new-hire turnover rate of less than 10% and approximately 200 hours lost to injuries.

Program Funding

Authorized appropriations for Administrative Support in FY 2006-07 totaled \$24.9 million with 13% from the General Fund, 86% from the Special Revenue Fund, and 1% from other sources.

Contact

For more information, contact Rodney Massey, Operational Support Director at (651) 297-8340 or toll-free at 1 (800) 657-3864.

The MPCA web site at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us> provides useful information about the Minnesota's environment including regulatory news and updates, rules, public notices, MPCA initiatives, details about environmental quality and current "hot topics."

For information on how the MPCA measures some of its efforts to meet statewide goals, please visit <http://www.departmentresults.state.mn.us>.

POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY
 Program: ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Program Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	2008-09
<u>Direct Appropriations by Fund</u>					
General					
Current Appropriation	1,583	1,583	1,583	1,583	3,166
Forecast Base	1,583	1,583	1,583	1,583	3,166
<u>Expenditures by Fund</u>					
Direct Appropriations					
General	1,320	1,704	1,583	1,583	3,166
Statutory Appropriations					
State Government Spec Revenue	1	1	1	1	2
Misc Special Revenue	11,671	14,212	12,078	12,184	24,262
Environmental	41	35	35	35	70
Remediation Fund	128	104	104	104	208
Total	13,161	16,056	13,801	13,907	27,708
<u>Expenditures by Category</u>					
Total Compensation	7,424	8,235	7,982	8,141	16,123
Other Operating Expenses	5,734	7,821	5,819	5,766	11,585
Local Assistance	3	0	0	0	0
Total	13,161	16,056	13,801	13,907	27,708
<u>Expenditures by Activity</u>					
Administrative Support	13,161	16,056	13,801	13,907	27,708
Total	13,161	16,056	13,801	13,907	27,708
Full-Time Equivalents (FTE)	93.9	103.1	99.7	98.3	

Program Description

The Prevention and Assistance program provides pollution prevention and scientific and technical support to evaluate the environmental risk of proposed projects and identify pollution trends and emerging environmental issues. Staff partners with businesses, communities and other public and private interests. These partnerships include in-depth technical expertise and financial incentives for the implementation of activities, system ideas, approaches, and technologies to conserve resources, prevent pollution and protect the environment.

Prevention and Assistance activities focus on five main areas: environmentally sound business development; sustainable community development; waste as a resource; clean energy; and scientific, educational and technical support to Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) staff and direct customers. This program provides resources throughout the MPCA's air, land, and water programs to help them meet the goals outlined in the MPCA's strategic plan. Such support allows MPCA to provide assistance to protect natural resources, prevent, and regulate pollution sources and effectively clean up contaminated sites for beneficial uses.

Program at a Glance

- ◆ Demonstrate the technology of the future to Minnesota fairgoers at the new state fair "Eco-Experience," an indoor green space exhibit with rain gardens, an eco-home, and displays on renewable energy, new fuels and vehicles, and organic farming,
- ◆ Protect the natural resources of the Brainerd lakes area through the "Clean Lakes Partnership"
- ◆ Promote the use of renewable fuels, solar and wind projects to reduce air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions
- ◆ Assess environmental impacts to inform regulatory and cleanup project decisions
- ◆ Provide grants and loans to promote environmentally innovative projects

Population Served

- ⇒ Waste and pollution prevention and toxicity reduction activities benefit all Minnesota citizens.
- ⇒ Prevention and Assistance staff works in direct partnership with businesses, institutions, other units of governments, schools, community organizations, and individuals.
- ⇒ Local citizens and decision-makers at all levels of government use the use the assistance and materials provided by the MPCA.
- ⇒ Parties regulated by the MPCA receive training in state and federal requirements that enables them to do their part in protecting and improving the environment.

Services Provided

Prevention and Assistance activities include the following services:

Environmental Business Development. The most effective means to protect our air, water, land, and long-term economic health is to avoid pollution by using manufacturing processes and products that are the least harmful to the environment. Prevention and Assistance staff helps small businesses prevent pollution and comply with environmental requirements.

- ⇒ Through the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP), operating since 1984, the MPCA works with industries to adopt pollution prevention and conservation practices that reduce costs while also protecting the environment. In 2004-2005 site visits and student interns helped Minnesota companies save nearly \$3 million in operating costs, conserve over 40 million gallons of water, and reduce 35,000 tons of waste.
- ⇒ MPCA prepares and submits a biennial progress report to the legislature evaluating progress and opportunities in pollution prevention. Toxic Release Inventory data collected from Minnesota businesses indicates progress in many manufacturing sectors.
- ⇒ Program staff provides waste reduction services, ensuring Minnesota businesses understand the economic benefits they can achieve through waste reduction.

Environmental Community Development. Prevention and Assistance works with local communities to help their citizens understand the impact of daily actions and behaviors on the environment:

- ⇒ A new state fair exhibit allows Minnesotans to experience the latest environmentally-friendly products and technologies, including the latest in composting, clean energy, storm water management, and other innovations.

- ⇒ Program staff works with communities in the Duluth area to design and build an ecologically appropriate industrial development. Other key activities include green buildings, cleaner fuels and vehicles, and helping Minnesotans through “Living Green 365.”
- ⇒ Program staff educates Minnesotans through skill-building workshops, partnerships, communication and outreach efforts, and by providing financial and educational resources.
- ⇒ The program implements the *GreenPrint for Minnesota: State Plan for Environmental Education (Second Edition)*, which offers guidance to individuals, organizations, and agencies that deliver or support environmental education (EE) in Minnesota.
- ⇒ The MPCA reaches Minnesotans through its up-to-date and informative web sites. MPCA’s web site (<http://www.pca.state.mn.us>) offers resources for learning more about pollution prevention, reuse, recycling, responsible waste management, and sustainable practices. The NextStep web site (<http://www.nextstep.state.mn.us>) offers resources for finding and sharing information on sustainability.

Waste as a Resource. Prevention and Assistance implements state policy regarding the treatment of waste as a resource.

- ⇒ Treating waste as a resource reduces pollution, saves money, and creates jobs. Shifting waste management practices toward those that better manage waste, such as waste reduction, reuse, recycling, composting, or energy recovery reduces pollution, including greenhouse gases. Reducing and eliminating the generation of waste saves money by conserving raw materials and using resources more efficiently in the production.
- ⇒ Minnesota recycles over 40% of the state’s garbage, and burns over 20% for energy. Recycling industries contribute an estimated \$2.98 billion to the state’s economy, and support nearly 9,000 direct and 20,000 indirect jobs. If the additional 1.1 million tons of material available for recovery were recycled, this would save 25 trillion BTUs, enough to power 238,000 homes. Discarded materials have a current value of \$167 million.

Clean Energy. In collaboration with the Department of Commerce and other partners the MPCA promotes the development of clean energy, energy efficiency, and the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. The MPCA’s green power campaign encourages Minnesotans to buy wind power from their utilities.

- ⇒ The MPCA provides incentives to support wind and solar power and has installed gas-to-energy systems at several closed state-owned landfills to mitigate the impacts of gas generated at those sites. MPCA supports the use of E85 and other biofuels to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and benefit local businesses.

Agency-wide support. Program staff uses their partnership and education skills and technical and financial resources to assist MPCA staff working in all air, land, and water programs. This level of integrated support enables the MPCA to effectively protect natural resources, prevent and regulate pollution sources, and clean up contaminated sites for a return to beneficial use.

Historical Perspective

The 2005 legislature joined the Office of Environmental Assistance (OEA) and the MPCA into a new agency. The new MPCA is integrating the array of tools used by the two former agencies to address current environmental problems. Tools are being applied in the development of total maximum daily load studies (TMDLs) and stormwater management plans to promote low impact development ideas and best management practices for local governments and property owners. The newly created Resource Center offers a wealth of hands-on resources, including personal assistance, videos, fact sheets, curricula, and CD-ROMs. The Resource Center serves as a resource to businesses, citizen and youth groups, families, governments and nonprofit organizations, students, teachers and nonformal educators, and religious groups.

As Minnesotans address the next generation of environmental challenges and problems having a full slate of tools to choose from will be critical.

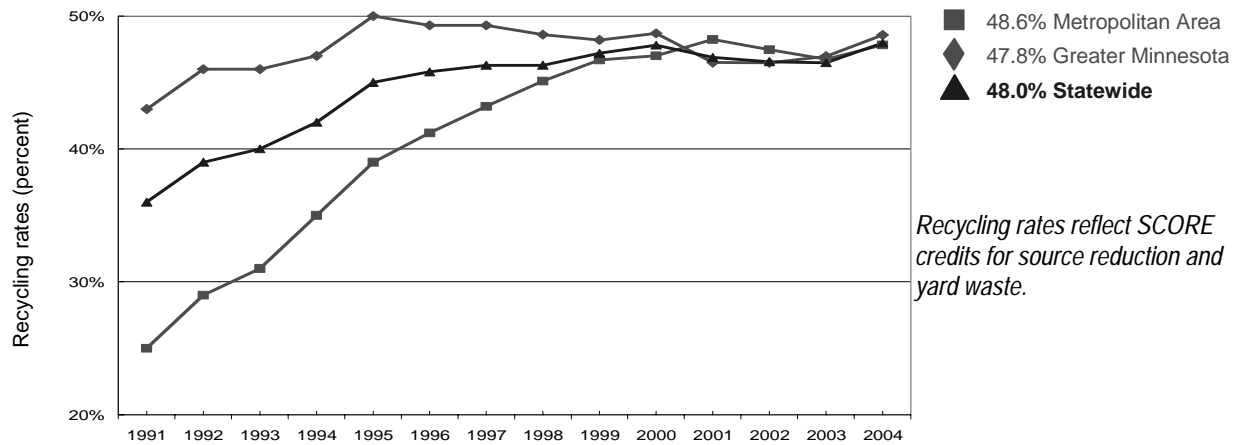
Key Measures

The following table compares Minnesota's recycling rate to other states across the country and the midwest.

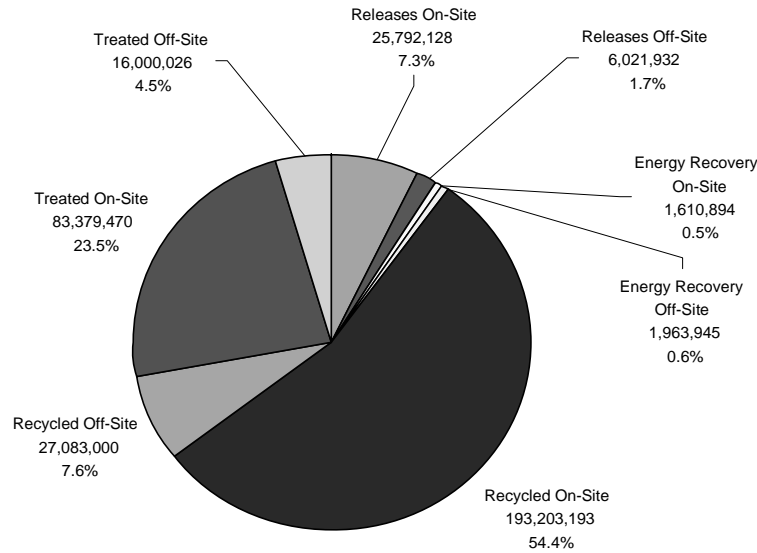
Oregon	45.8%
Minnesota	43.2%
New York	43.0%
Tennessee	42.2%
Washington	40.5%
California	39.6%
Iowa	39.6%
Missouri	38.9%
Illinois	37.7%
New Jersey	35.9%
source: "The State of Garbage in America," <i>BioCycle</i>	

Minnesota	45.6%
Iowa	39.6%
Wisconsin	32.4%
North Dakota	18.0%
South Dakota	3.0%
source: "The State of Garbage in America," <i>BioCycle</i>	

Minnesota's recycling progress



Managing Toxic Chemicals in Minnesota



Program Funding

Authorized appropriations in FY 2006-07 for the Environmental Assistance Program totaled \$43.9 million from the Environmental Fund.

Contact

For more information, contact Dave Benke, Assistant Division Director at (651) 215-0196 or toll-free at 1 (800) 657-3864.

The MPCA web site at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us> provides useful information about Minnesota’s environment. The types of information available through the site include regulatory news and updates, rules, public notices, agency initiatives, details about environmental quality, and current “hot topics.”

For information on how the MPCA measures some of its efforts to meet statewide goals, please visit <http://www.departmentresults.state.mn.us>.

POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Program: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE

Program Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	2008-09
<u>Direct Appropriations by Fund</u>					
Environmental					
Current Appropriation	19,442	19,442	19,442	19,442	38,884
Forecast Base	19,442	19,442	19,442	19,442	38,884
<u>Expenditures by Fund</u>					
Direct Appropriations					
General	1	0	0	0	0
Environmental	19,041	19,864	19,442	19,442	38,884
Statutory Appropriations					
Misc Special Revenue	116	156	79	79	158
Federal	17	13	0	0	0
Environmental	771	2,072	2,244	2,244	4,488
Miscellaneous Agency	78	0	0	0	0
Gift	2	22	11	11	22
Total	20,026	22,127	21,776	21,776	43,552
<u>Expenditures by Category</u>					
Total Compensation	4,182	3,903	3,815	3,860	7,675
Other Operating Expenses	943	2,667	1,878	1,846	3,724
Local Assistance	14,801	15,360	15,905	15,892	31,797
Other Financial Transactions	100	197	178	178	356
Total	20,026	22,127	21,776	21,776	43,552
<u>Expenditures by Activity</u>					
Environmental Assistance	20,026	22,127	21,776	21,776	43,552
Total	20,026	22,127	21,776	21,776	43,552
Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)	59.2	52.6	50.9	50.3	

POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Agency Revenue Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Actual FY2006	Budgeted FY2007	Current Law		Biennium 2008-09
			FY2008	FY2009	
<u>Non Dedicated Revenue:</u>					
Departmental Earnings:					
General	8	8	8	8	16
Petroleum Tank Release Cleanup	4	8	6	6	12
State Government Spec Revenue	40	37	37	37	74
Environmental	21,968	22,848	23,660	23,725	47,385
Other Revenues:					
General	310	312	307	307	614
Petroleum Tank Release Cleanup	135	40	40	40	80
Environmental	2,316	2,452	1,233	1,211	2,444
Remediation Fund	4,210	4,157	2,647	2,618	5,265
Closed Landfill Investment	27	0	0	0	0
Total Non-Dedicated Receipts	29,018	29,862	27,938	27,952	55,890
<u>Dedicated Receipts:</u>					
Departmental Earnings:					
Misc Special Revenue	545	740	310	317	627
Grants:					
Misc Special Revenue	3,705	3,350	3,450	3,550	7,000
Federal	19,254	28,494	21,091	21,913	43,004
Other Revenues:					
Clean Water Revolving Fund	156	164	164	164	328
Misc Special Revenue	8,642	9,612	9,662	9,668	19,330
Environmental	62	67	65	65	130
Remediation Fund	245	251	102	150	252
Gift	6	11	11	11	22
Other Sources:					
Clean Water Revolving Fund	1,596	1,647	2,836	2,836	5,672
Environmental	169	253	238	238	476
Total Dedicated Receipts	34,380	44,589	37,929	38,912	76,841
Agency Total Revenue	63,398	74,451	65,867	66,864	132,731