

Hauled Liquid Waste Types and Descriptions

MCES regulates septage and other hauled liquid waste discharged to the Metropolitan Disposal System (MDS) at approved MCES disposal sites. All loads of hauled liquid waste discharged into the MDS under the provisions of the MCES Septage Management Program are categorized below. Please be aware that although MCES currently accepts the types of hauled liquid waste describe below, MCES reserves the right to refuse any material that is found to be different from that which has been pre-approved or specifically approved for acceptance under this program or when deemed necessary due to operational issues at an approved Liquid Waste Receiving (LWR) facility or MCES Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Domestic Waste

- Domestic Septage – Domestic sewage pumped from a residential septic tank with a drain field
- Domestic Holding Tank Waste – Domestic waste pumped from a sealed tank with no drain field

Commercial Waste

Commercial waste is defined as a non-industrial waste hauled from a business or service establishment and is limited to the following:

- **Portable Toilet Waste**
- **Restaurant Grease Traps**
- **Flammable Waste Trap Wastewater** – Petroleum products and their derivatives are prohibited for discharge to the sanitary sewer system as per Section 406.00 of the Waste Discharge Rules. Therefore, all floating oil shall be removed prior to pumping the trap. The service station and/or business owner shall remove the petroleum layer either by pumping it off and collecting it for recycling, or by using absorbent pads to remove the thin layer of oil present on the surface of the water.
- **Sand Trap Wastewater** – Haulers shall make every effort possible to minimize the amount of sand, grit, and sludge discharged at MCES approved disposal sites. All such material remaining in the hauler's truck, after discharge, shall be disposed of in an appropriate manner as a solid waste.
- **Commercial Holding Tank Waste** – Wastewater from a commercial establishment that includes all wastewater generated on site.

Industrial Waste

All loads which do not meet the definition of domestic or commercial waste as defined above are considered industrial waste loads under the Septage Management Program and must be sampled, analyzed, and approved by MCES through an approval letter process prior to transport and disposal. Industrial waste as it applies to the MCES Septage Management Program is defined as one of the following:

- **Industrial Waste** – Liquid waste resulting from an industrial or manufacturing process. This includes, but it not limited to food wastes from food product manufacturing companies, dairy wastes, and waste from all process sumps within an industrial facility including those in vehicle maintenance areas where process waste and flammable waste trap wastewater are combined.
- **Landfill Leachate** – Wastewater resulting from the percolation of rainwater and/or internal liquids through the deposited material in a solid waste disposal facility. This waste category includes landfill gas condensate, which results when landfill gas cools in the gas collection system and forms a liquid waste.
- **Groundwater and Surface Water unsuitable for discharge to receiving waters** – Contaminated groundwater is defined as polluted water pumped from soil, aquifers or underground tanks, as part of a remedial or dewatering action. Contaminated Surface Water is defined as polluted water from lakes, streams, and ponds, as well as contaminated runoff water.

Many industrial wastes are not suitable for discharge through the Septage Management Program. Included are the wastes that exceed MCES discharge limits and/or any prohibited wastes listed in MCES Waste Discharge Rules and all wastes defined as hazardous under Minnesota Rules Chapter 7045. All approved industrial waste loads shall be disposed of at

the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant LWR disposal site in St. Paul, unless noted otherwise on the written approval letter issued by MCES.

Note: If the industry (i.e., Responsible Party) does not have a valid letter from MCES indicating that the Industrial Waste can be hauled and disposed of, the hauler or industry representative is required to contact MCES to begin the approval process.

Out of Service Area (OSA) Domestic and Commercial Waste

MCES currently accepts standard Domestic Septage, Domestic Holding Tank Waste, and Portable Toilet Waste from the following counties adjacent to the seven-county metropolitan area: Chisago, Isanti, Sherburne, Wright, McLeod, Sibley, Nicollet, LeSueur, Rice, Goodhue, Polk, St. Croix, and Pierce. MCES also accepts restaurant and other food service establishment Grease Trap Waste from outside the metropolitan area without any restrictions regarding source location.

Out of Service Area (OSA) Industrial Waste

MCES accepts hauled Industrial Waste from outside the seven-county metropolitan area. This review process takes longer than approval for industrial loads within the service area and requires an upfront non-refundable application fee. Additional information is also required on alternative disposal methods, closer to the source of the waste. Sample results must be submitted and must meet MCES WDR limits. Loading and possible impact on MCES's wastewater treatment plant is also considered.

Note: Flammable waste traps and sand traps from outside the seven-county metropolitan area are treated as OSA Industrial Waste and must follow the same procedure stated above.