

Enforcement Coordination with Local and State Units of Government

Local Unit of Government- Zoning and Waste Management Offices

MnDOT's responsibility to monitor highways for state-classified junkyards is an on-going observation and documentation process. Observed violations should be addressed immediately. Recommended actions in priority order:

1. Stop and talk to the property owner (or renter) to explain state junkyard law
2. Notify local zoning staff to determine if local zoning applies and if zoning is more restrictive than state law. Work together to encourage land owner to correct violation of state law.
3. Depending on ownership and related concerns, contact and work with other local and state agencies to encourage land owner to correct violation of state law.

Pollution and Pollution Disposal Requirements

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has state permit authority for pollution and motor vehicle salvage facilities pollution disposal requirements.

MPCA: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/view-document.html?gid=5829>

Waste Tire Removal

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency regulates the accumulation, transport and disposal of waste tires in Minnesota.

MPCA: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/view-document.html?gid=17128>

State Revisors Office: <https://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/topics/?type=comp&id=S4049861>

Junkyards on Local Roads/Control Initiatives

State law only includes junkyards that are within ½ mile and visible from a state highway. Federal law changes in 2012 include controls on some local roads. Limiting control of junkyards to state highways and the interstate can be confusing to the public. A small junkyard located along a state highway is required to clean up or screen its operation, while a mile away on a county road, a larger and more unsightly junkyard is not required to clean up.

Local Junkyard Control Program

The state should encourage local units of government to adopt zoning ordinances that prevent new junkyards from starting up, unless they located in appropriate areas and are screened. They should require screening for expansion of all existing yards.

Investigate Possible Funding Sources

The district and local units of government should investigate possible federal and state funding for local units of government to support the clean-up or screening of unsightly junkyards along local roads.