

Minnesota Certified Automotive Recycler Program

2020 Annual Report



MN-CAR Overview

Automotive Recyclers of Minnesota (ARM) is the statewide trade association of licensed auto recyclers. The association's members are auto recycling companies in Minnesota that have taken a leadership role in safe and environmentally-sound vehicle recycling. ARM members support responsible recycling, worker safety, and environmental protection. ARM promotes the proper handling and disposal of all automotive-related hazardous materials, including gasoline, oil, refrigerant, antifreeze, brake fluid, transmission fluid, batteries, mercury switches, and tires.

In 2008, ARM established the Minnesota Certified Automotive Recycler Program (MN-CAR). The MN-CAR program was developed and adopted to help participating ARM members improve regulatory compliance and meet the nation's highest performance standards. This proactive, industry-led approach assists members in complying with the complicated set of environmental, safety, and business regulations that face Minnesota auto recyclers. In 2020, there were 11 ARM members who participated in MN-CAR. In late 2020, The ARM Board of Directors decided to update the MN-CAR standards to better address new regulations and industry practices. The updated standards will take effect in 2021.

MN-CAR Administration

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Sharp Auto Parts, Stillwater
Shipman Auto Parts, Brainerd
St. Cloud Auto Wrecking, Sauk Rapids*

*Facility was audited in 2020. The remaining members conducted Self-Audits

2020
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Highlights

MN-CAR Membership

MN-CAR membership included 11 members in 2020.

Stormwater Compliance

The MN-CAR program delivered quality information, education, and training, and onsite technical assistance to help members comply with their permit.

- Benchmark monitoring locations and procedures were reviewed at all audited facilities
- Best Management Practices were inspected and reviewed
- Sampling data were reviewed for each audited facility

Safety Compliance Program

In 2013, ARM launched a new Safety Program that helps members provide safe working conditions for employees and comply with MnOSHA safety regulations. A Safety Compliance Manual was provided to MN-CAR members. During MN-CAR audits, safety practices are reviewed with the members.

MN-CAR Services

MN-CAR members are audited every other year, and conduct self audits in alternate years. The MN-CAR Program Manager assists the members in meeting the standards. MN-CAR certified members who belong to the Automotive Recyclers Association (ARA) can be automatically certified under ARA's National CAR program, and are eligible to participate in the ARA Gold Seal program.

Updated MN-CAR Standards

The MN-CAR Program Manager recommended that the MN-CAR standards be updated to reflect new regulations and industry practices. The Board agreed, and 13 new or updated standards were added to the MN-CAR program. The new standards will be implemented over a two-year period, beginning in 2021.

Updated MN-CAR Checklist

General Business Standards

- Suitable customer parking
- Professional sales counter & reception area
- Professional signage
- Well managed buildings & property
- Safe & professional vehicles & equipment
- Safe & organized salvage vehicle storage
- Full service, Self service, or Both
- Parts storage system

Licensing & Regulatory Standards

- Salvage license
- Environ: storm water, refrigerant, haz waste
- DOT airbag transportation training
- Forklift operation training

Safety Standards

- Facility Safety Program
- Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- OSHA-approved eyewash
- Fire extinguishers
- First aid kit
- Cutting torch safety
- Hazardous Communication, SDS, posting, Labeling, and OSHA 300A
- Employee and customer safety signage
- Hybrid and electric vehicle safety training, supervision, and safety equipment

Environmental Standards

- Proper vehicle processing location
- Fluid storage / secondary containment
- Battery handling & storage
- Refrigerant removal
- Storage - motors & transmissions: to be sold
- Storage - motors & transmissions: core/scrap
- Parts washer management
- Scrap tire storage
- Mercury switch removal & recycling
- Crushing operation procedures & location
- Pavement cleaning & maintenance
- Erosion control
- Debris and trash cleanup
- Storm water outfall maintenance
- Fuel removal procedures
- Spill Kits, Prevention, Response, Training, and Reporting

