

Helping Waste & Recycling Companies Determine their Operation According to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)

NWRA Data Collection Working Group

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**National
Waste & Recycling
AssociationSM**

Collect. Recycle. Innovate.

Overview

This NWRA white paper assists organizations in the waste and recycling industry to properly identify their NAICS codes for reporting purposes to various government agencies, some of which are Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA), Bureau of the Census, and other. In addition, knowing your codes will help the NWRA as it advances data collection of the industry.

Once identified, comparison with government produced data on your operations can be analyzed and used in business decisions.

Factors in Determining Your NAICS Code

- 1) Identify your organizations operations
- 2) Identify which operations are in separate locations or buildings
- 3) Find the NAICS code that best describes that operation
- 4) A key phrase in determining your code is “primarily engaged in”
- 5) If operations are located in the same building or on the same grounds, they can be combined into the NAICS code with the highest revenue.

Waste & Recycling Industry NAICS Codes

There are six industry codes that represent the *core operations* of the waste & recycling industry:

NAICS 562111 Solid Waste Collection

NAICS 562119 Other Waste Collection

NAICS 562212 Solid Waste Landfill

NAICS 562213 Solid Waste Combustors and Incinerators

NAICS 562219 Other Nonhazardous Waste Treatment and Disposal

NAICS 562920 Materials Recovery Facilities

The following most common codes (not exhaustive) represent **supportive operations**:

- NAICS 551114 Corporate, Subsidiary, and Regional Managing Offices
- NAICS 518210 Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services
- NAICS 811310 Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment (except Automotive and Electronic) Repair and Maintenance
- NAICS 541330 Engineering Services
- NAICS 811111 General Automotive Repair

The following codes represent **ancillary operations**:

- NAICS 562112 Hazardous Waste Collection
- NAICS 562211 Hazardous Waste Treatment and Disposal
- NAICS 562910 Remediation Services
- NAICS 562991 Septic Tank and Related Services
- NAICS 562998 All Other Miscellaneous Waste Management Services

Definitions for the CORE OPERATIONS

NAICS 562111 Solid Waste Collection

This U.S. industry comprises establishments primarily engaged in one or more of the following: (1) collecting and/or hauling nonhazardous solid waste (i.e., garbage) within a local area; (2) operating nonhazardous solid waste transfer stations; and (3) collecting and/or hauling mixed recyclable materials within a local area.

562119 Other Waste Collection

This U.S. industry comprises establishments primarily engaged in collecting and/or hauling waste (except nonhazardous solid waste and hazardous waste) within a local area. Establishments engaged in brush or rubble removal services are included in this industry.

562212 Solid Waste Landfill

This U.S. industry comprises establishments primarily engaged in (1) operating landfills for the disposal of nonhazardous solid waste or (2) the combined activity of collecting and/or hauling nonhazardous waste materials within a local area and operating landfills for the disposal of nonhazardous solid waste. These establishments may produce byproducts, such as methane.

562213 Solid Waste Combustors and Incinerators

This U.S. industry comprises establishments primarily engaged in operating combustors and incinerators for the disposal of nonhazardous solid waste. These establishments may produce byproducts, such as electricity and steam.

562219 Other Nonhazardous Waste Treatment and Disposal

This U.S. industry comprises establishments primarily engaged in (1) operating nonhazardous waste treatment and disposal facilities (except landfills, combustors, incinerators and sewer systems or sewage treatment facilities) or (2) the combined activity of collecting and/or hauling of nonhazardous waste materials within a local area and operating waste treatment or disposal facilities (except landfills, combustors, incinerators and sewer systems, or sewage treatment facilities). Compost dumps are included in this industry.

562920 Materials Recovery Facilities

This industry comprises establishments primarily engaged in (1) operating facilities for separating and sorting recyclable materials from nonhazardous waste streams (i.e., garbage) and/or (2) operating facilities where commingled recyclable materials, such as paper, plastics, used beverage cans, and metals, are sorted into distinct categories.

There is one classification that causes difficulty among recycling operations. Which NAICS do you belong in NAICS 423930 (definition below) or NAICS 562920? Are your operations a MRF or a scrap recycler? Looking at the key phrase is “primarily engaged in,” helps to determine the proper NAICS code. If the operation of the facility is primarily sorting of materials, then the operations are classified as a MRF, NAICS 562920. If the facility is primarily engaged in selling materials, meaning that little or no sorting is going on, then the operations are that of a scrap recycler, NAICS 423930.

423930 Recyclable Material Merchant Wholesalers

This industry comprises establishments primarily engaged in the merchant wholesale distribution of automotive scrap, industrial scrap, and other recyclable materials. Included in this industry are auto wreckers primarily engaged in dismantling motor vehicles for the purpose of wholesaling scrap.

Background on the NAICS Codes

The NAICS replaced the Standard Industry Classification (SIC) codes in 1997. Both sets of codes identify industries in America and assign a code number to them.

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is the standard used by Federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments for the purpose of collecting, analyzing, and publishing statistical data related to the U.S. business economy.

NAICS was developed under the auspices of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and adopted in 1997 to replace the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system. It was developed jointly by the U.S. Economic Classification Policy Committee (ECPC), Statistics Canada This link to a non-federal Web site does not imply endorsement of any particular product, company, or content., and Mexico's Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía This link to a non-federal Web site does not imply endorsement of any particular product, company, or content., to allow for a high level of comparability in business statistics among the North American countries.

SIC to NAICS Translation Table

Many operations at the state level continue to identify themselves using the Standard Industry Classification System (SIC). If your operations know their SIC code(s), then the following table will help convert that code number in the NAICS code number(s).

CORE OPERATIONS

NAICS		SIC	
562111	Solid Waste Collection	4212	Local Trucking Without Storage (solid waste collection without disposal)
562119	Other Waste Collection	4212	Local Trucking Without Storage (other waste collection without disposal)
562212	Solid Waste Landfill	4953	Refuse Systems (solid waste landfills)
562213	Solid Waste Combustors and Incinerators	4953	Refuse Systems (solid waste combustors and incinerators)
562219	Other Nonhazardous Waste Treatment and Disposal	4953	Refuse Systems (other nonhazardous waste treatment and disposal)
562920	Materials Recovery Facilities	4953	Refuse Systems (materials recovery facilities)

SUPPORTIVE OPERATIONS

NAICS		SIC	
551114	Corporate, Subsidiary, and Regional Managing Offices	Aux	These establishments were included as auxiliaries in the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification
518210	Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services	7374	Computer Processing and Data Preparation and Processing Services
811310	Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment (except Automotive and Electronic) Repair and Maintenance	7623	Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Services and Repair Shops (commercial refrigerator equipment repair)
811310	Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment (except Automotive and Electronic) Repair and Maintenance	7692	Welding Repair

811310	Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment (except Automotive and Electronic) Repair and Maintenance	7694	Armature Rewinding Shops (repair)
		7699	Repair Shops and Related Services, NEC (other non-automotive transportation equipment and industrial machines and equipment, and sharpening commercial blades)
811310	Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment (except Automotive and Electronic) Repair and Maintenance	8711	Engineering Services
541330	Engineering Services	8748	Business Consulting Services, NEC (traffic consultants)
541330	Engineering Services	7538	General Automotive Repair Shops
811111	General Automotive Repair		

ANACILLARY

NAICS		SIC	
562112	Hazardous Waste Collection	4212	Local Trucking Without Storage (hazardous waste collection without disposal)
562211	Hazardous Waste Treatment and Disposal	4953	Refuse Systems (hazardous waste treatment and disposal)
562910	Remediation Services	1799	Special Trade Contractors, NEC (asbestos abatement and lead paint removal contractors)
562910	Remediation Services	4959	Sanitary Services, NEC (remediation services)
562991	Septic Tank and Related Services	7359	Equipment Rental and Leasing, NEC (portable toilet rental)
562991	Septic Tank and Related Services	7699	Repair Shops and Related Services, NEC (cesspool and septic tank cleaning)
562998	All Other Miscellaneous Waste Management Services	4959	Sanitary Services, NEC (all but remediation services, malaria control, mosquito eradication, snowplowing, street sweeping, and airport runway vacuuming)
		7699	Repair Shops and Related Services, NEC (sewer cleaning and rodding)