



License Information Sheet

Form
RSTP-info

Recycling, Salvaging, or Towing Vehicle



\$400
License Fee



Varies
See p. 2



Ch. 93
Code Reference
Milwaukee.gov/ordinances

Who Needs a License?



- Any premises in the City of Milwaukee used in the business of recycling, salvaging or towing
- Includes dealing in junk, valuable metal, waste tires (25+ per year), salvaged motor vehicle parts, and non-consensual towing



- Licensed private waste collectors
- Businesses *exclusively* performing *consensual* towing
- See s. 93-5-4 of the Milwaukee Code for additional exceptions

Getting Started

- ☐ Review the License Quick-Start Guide
- ☐ Submit all of the following:
 - ☐ A complete application at www.milwaukee.gov/lms
 - ☐ A floor plan
 - ☐ Payment

Quick-Start Guide



See our [Quick-Start Guide](#) for detailed instructions on submitting an application, licensing requirements, the approval process, and other important information.

Resources



Want to learn more?
Visit our website!

Milwaukee.gov/RedTapeRescue





Checklist

Easy As...

Form RSTP-info Jan 2026

1 Requirements

To Complete Your Application for Review:

- ☐ [Fingerprinting](#)

Who? Everyone listed on the Business Ownership Form

Before the License can be Issued:

- ☐ [Contact the Department of Neighborhood Services](#)

Who? Businesses located in the city of Milwaukee must obtain an [occupancy permit](#).

- ☐ [Department of Financial Institutions Registration](#)

Who? Corporations, LLCs, and nonprofits must submit proof of registration to the License Division.

- ☐ Photographs

Who? All applicants must submit photos of each side of the vehicle showing required signage to the License Division

2 Approval

Background Investigation

After everyone reports for fingerprinting, the Milwaukee Police Department completes a background check and sends a report to the License Division.

Licenses Committee

You may be asked to appear before the Common Council's Licenses Committee.

If asked to appear, you will receive written notice of the date and time of the meeting prior to the hearing.

The Committee makes a recommendation to the Common Council to either approve or deny the license.

Common Council

Applications recommended for approval by the Licenses Committee are typically granted at the Common Council meeting following the Committee hearing.

3 Important

Vehicle Signage

Signs must be printed or affixed on both sides of the vehicle in letters at least 2 inches high. Wording must include:

- Name of the business or person operating the vehicle
- Telephone number for the business or person
- "RST License No." and your assigned permit number (which you will receive upon filing your application)

Commercial motor vehicles (except tow trucks) bearing a U.S. Dept. of Transportation number are exempt from the signage requirement (photos must still be submitted)

Change of Vehicle

If changing vehicles during the license period, a transfer application and \$10 fee is required

Additional Yard

A separate license and \$75 fee is required for each additional place used only for storage of recycled, salvaged, or towed materials

License Term

Licenses for non-consensual towing last one year. If not conducting non-consensual towing, the license lasts for 2-years.

Large Print



Braille

Upon request, this material is available in alternative formats for individuals with disabilities. Contact ADACoordinator@milwaukee.gov, (414) 286-3475 or TTY: 711. Provide 72 hours advance notice, seven days for Braille.