Frequently Asked Questions

Maryland's Heating Fuel Provider Reporting Program

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General

When is the first reporting deadline and what should be included in my report?

The first reporting deadline is April 1, 2027. This report should include monthly heating fuel delivery data for 2026 (January 1st through December 31st), separated by each fuel type, sector, and county served. MDE is asking heating fuel providers to register now to prepare for the first reporting period.

Why do I need to report by county?

County-level reporting will enable MDE to more accurately identify the Maryland communities that face the most significant health impacts from air pollution. Fuel combustion produces nitrogen oxides (NOx) and ozone (smog) – air pollutants that contribute to hazardous air quality and can have substantial negative health impacts. MDE already provides the public with air quality forecasts at the county level. This heating fuel delivery data will improve the Department's ability to fulfil its mission to ensure all Marylanders can breathe clean air.

For help identifying the correct county for a list of delivery addresses, please watch our Introduction to the County Identification Tool video, which is available now on MDE's Clean Heat YouTube playlist.

I don't know the county associated with a delivery address. How do I identify the county for each address that I deliver fuel to?

The county identification tool is an optional resource that can help heating fuel providers identify the county associated with a delivery address. Providers are not required to use this tool if they already have county data or have another accurate method for identifying counties.

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The county identification tool, developed by the State of Maryland's Geographic Information Office, identifies the correct county for a list of addresses. Each address must include the street address, city, state, and zip code. Please watch our Introduction to the County Identification Tool video, which is available now on MDE's Clean Heat YouTube playlist, for a short demonstration on how to use this resource.

Note: This tool is hosted outside of MDE. The Department does not receive or have access to any information from a dataset uploaded to the county identification tool.

Is there a penalty for not meeting the annual reporting requirement?

Failure to meet the annual reporting requirements would place the heating fuel provider in violation of the requirements of the HFRP regulation. Violations are reviewed and enforced on a case-by-case basis by the MDE Air and Radiation Administration Compliance Program. Enforcement may range from warnings to noncompliance fees.

Do I need to share the delivery addresses in the reports?

No, MDE requires that reported data be totaled to the county level. MDE will not accept a list of delivery addresses as a permissible data submission. For help totaling delivery address-level data to the county level, please watch our Preparing Data for Submission video, which is available now on MDE's Clean Heat YouTube playlist.

How do I know if my deliveries are used for final sale or consumption?

In general, fuel that is delivered to a building or a residence is considered "final sale" as this is the final stage in the supply chain. Similarly, fuels delivered to a final disbursing site (e.g. kerosene to a gas station) are considered "final sale." Please include any questions on the applicability of the HFRP for your fuel deliveries in the registration form. MDE will reach out to the provider in response to any questions submitted through the registration form.

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Fuel-related questions

I deliver propane or kerosene to gas stations. Is that considered delivery for final sale or consumption?

Yes, the delivery of propane or kerosene to a gas station is considered delivery for final sale. As a result, these propane or kerosene deliveries should be reported through the HFRP.

Do you have to report deliveries of off-road diesel or dyed diesel?

Yes, off-road or dyed diesel should be reported.

In general, offroad or dyed diesel will be categorized for use in the industrial sector, which includes fuels used for construction or agricultural purposes. If, however, off-road diesel is being used in the commercial or residential sector, please categorize it appropriately.

Only diesel for road use should be excluded from reporting for the HFRP.

Please include any questions on the applicability of HFRP for your delivered fuels on your registration form. MDE will work with each provider to ensure the correct fuels are reported.

Is there a minimum delivery amount that exempts you from the heating fuel provider reporting program?

Maryland's Heating Fuel Provider Reporting Program applies to all heating fuel providers who deliver heating fuel for final sale or consumption in Maryland, regardless of the amount of fuel being delivered.

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Do I report used motor oil deliveries?

Used motor oil has already been delivered for final sale or consumption, and should not be reported for the HFRP. However, Marylanders must hold a permit for combusting used motor oil and separately report when used oil is combusted in fuel-burning equipment in Maryland as a part of COMAR 26.11.09: "Control of Fuel-Burning Equipment, Stationary Internal Combustion Engines, and Certain Fuel-Burning Installations."