

Compliance Alert: Prevent Injury by Correctly Installing and Maintaining Couplers

Burns, blindness, and injury to respiratory tract can result from an anhydrous ammonia release caused by a poorly installed or maintained break-away coupler. Take these steps to reduce the risk of an incident/release:

Read and Follow Instructions

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for installation, maintenance, replacement and operation.
- Also consult the Minnesota Department of Agriculture article, attached, "Musts" For NH3 Break-Away Couplers.

Maintenance, Installation and Replacement Information

The three primary companies that manufacture break-away couplers are:

- Continental NH3 Products Co., Inc.
- Parker Hannifin Corp. - Pioneer break-away coupler.
- Squibb Taylor, Inc.

These three manufacturers provide instruction on the correct installation of their break-away couplers. Break-away couplers are to be inspected, tested, and maintained before each use season to ensure proper operation.

The MDA will issue cease and desist orders whenever break-away couplers are found incorrectly installed, maintained, and beyond the manufacturer's replacement date.

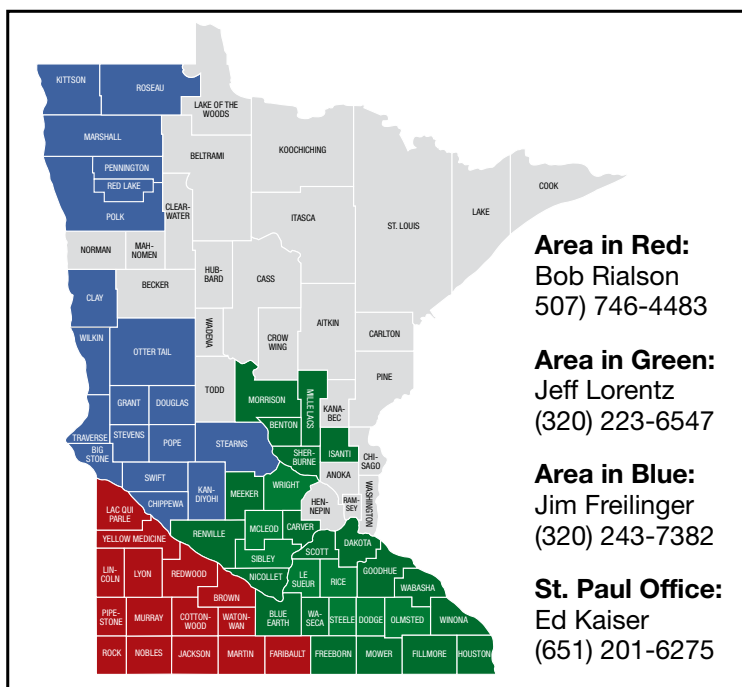
NOTE: The Pioneer break-away coupler has a replacement date stamp and decal. The manufacturer states "Discard and replace the coupler and/or nipple 3 years after installation or after the date shown on the product, whatever is earlier." Starting in 2015 the MDA will begin conducting inspections for replacement of break-away couplers based on the manufacturer's replacement date. Contact Parker Hannifin Corp to recertify outdated/unused Pioneer couplers.



Replacement date marking and decal on male segment of the Pioneer coupler.



Replacement date marking and decal on female segment of the Pioneer coupler.





Anhydrous Ammonia (NH3) Inspectors & Assigned Counties

Inspector & Assigned Counties		
Bob Rialson	Jim Freilinger	Jeff Lorentz
Brown	Big Stone	Benton
Cottonwood	Chippewa	Blue Earth
Faribault	Clay	Carver
Jackson	Douglas	Dakota
Lac Qui Parle	Grant	Dodge
Lincoln	Kandiyohi	Fillmore
Lyon	Kittson	Freeborn
Martin	Marshall	Goodhue
Murray	Ottertail	Houston
Nobles	Pennington	Isanti
Pipestone	Polk	Le Sueur
Redwood	Pope	McLeod
Rock	Red Lake	Meeker
Watonwan	Roseau	Mille Lacs
Yellow Medicine	Stearns	Morrison
	Stevens	Mower
	Swift	Nicollet
	Traverse	Olmsted
	Wilkin	Renville
		Rice
		Scott
		Sherburne
		Sibley
		Steele
		Wabasha
		Waseca
		Winona
		Wright