

Who are we?

The Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME), Division of Mineral Mining (DMM) is the state regulatory agency that administers health, safety, and mined land reclamation programs for all non-coal mineral mining operations in Virginia including quarries, sand and gravel pits, and other surface and underground mining operations.

Our goal is to provide for the safe and environmentally sound production of Virginia's non-fuel minerals. .

Title 45.1 of the Code of Virginia states that it is unlawful for any operator to engage in any mining operation in Virginia without having first obtained a permit to engage in such operation. Additionally, it requires that no person shall engage in the operation of any mineral mine within the Commonwealth without first obtaining a license from the Division.

Transferring a DMM Permit

Every mineral mining operation in Virginia will have a **mine permit** and **safety license** which can be transferred to another mine operator.

The original operator must willingly relinquish the permit/license and the new operator must accept the permit and assume all liability for the reclamation of the mine.

The new operator must also agree to abide by the existing conditions of the permit/license.

Mineral Mine Permit Requirements

All mineral mines in Virginia are subject to the Mineral Mine Reclamation Laws and Regulations of Virginia. It is in the new operator's best interest to obtain and review all the information concerning the existing conditions of the permit before deciding to accept the permit. Generally, this includes:

- Permit map and map legend,
- Operations plan,
- Drainage plan, and
- Reclamation plan.

Copies of these items are obtainable through the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) by contacting the DMM Charlottesville office.

These maps and plans dictate how you must operate the mine. All amendments or changes to the map and plans must be approved by DMM and cannot be requested by the new operator until the transfer process has been completed.

If, upon review of the existing conditions of the permit, you identify potential changes, review these with your DMM Inspector *prior* to initiating the transfer application.

There may be additional requirements or permits required that are outside the authority of DMM such as local zoning conditional-use permits and Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) air and water discharge permits.

Safety License Requirements

All mineral mines in Virginia are subject to the Virginia Mineral Mine Safety Laws and Regulations. These include training plans and miner training requirements. You should discuss these requirements with your DMM inspector before accepting the transfer of a mineral mine to learn about certification requirements and training opportunities.

What do I need to do to apply?

1. Visit the DMM website at: www.dmme.virginia.gov/dmm/division/mineralmining.shtml
2. The transfer permit application package is downloadable under Printable Forms on our website.
3. In addition you will need a Right of Entry which is documentation allowing the successor operator to mine on the land. This is in the form of the property deed if you own the property. A lease agreement is needed from the property owner if you do not own the mineral rights to the property.
4. Contact your inspector. Find this on the Inspector Area Map, and much more, under Resources Materials on our website or by calling the DMM office.

What are the costs?

Permit fees, license fees, and appropriate reclamation bonds are required prior to the transfer of the permit/license. The fees for a permit transfer are as follows:

Permit Fee: \$20/permitted acre.

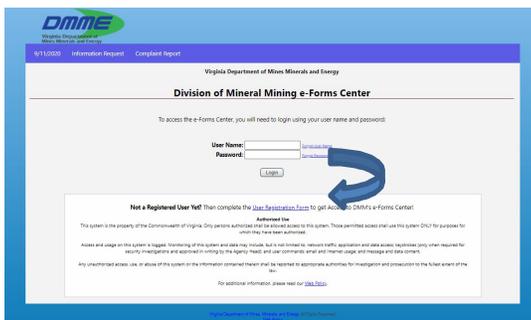
License Fee: \$400 for paper submittal of the application package or \$330 for the eforms submittal of the permit/license application.

Bond Fee: \$3000/disturbed acre. Acceptable in cash deposit, surety bond, or Certificate of Deposit made payable to the Treasurer of Virginia.

Minerals Reclamation Fund: Operators with prior permit history with DMM may be eligible to join the Minerals Reclamation Fund in lieu of bonding. Discuss this with your DMM inspector.

How do I apply?

It's simple! You can register and file electronically at the DMM e-Forms Center. Sign up for your user ID and password under "User Registration" at: <https://www.dmme.virginia.gov/DMMEForms>



What must I do annually?

File a Renewal

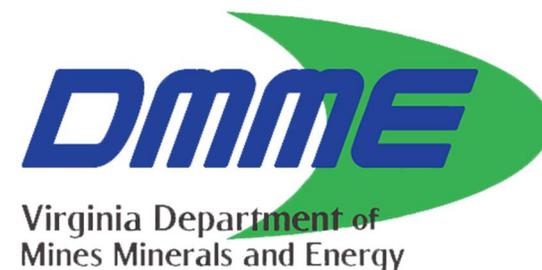
The permit/license must be renewed annually by the anniversary date.

Permit fees and license fees are assessed annually as part of the renewal process. An updated mine permit map will be required if changes to the mine have taken place during the past 12 months.

Annual Tonnage Report

Between January 1st and February 15th of each year, licensed operators must file an Annual Tonnage Report (DMM-146) for the previous calendar year.

The licensed operator should maintain accurate records pertaining to production tonnage, workers hours, and wages throughout the year to ensure timely completion of the Annual Tonnage Report.



PERMIT TRANSFERS

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