



OIL SPILL NOTIFICATION, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY

★ NOTIFICATION

FIRST, report oil and hazardous substance releases by calling the:

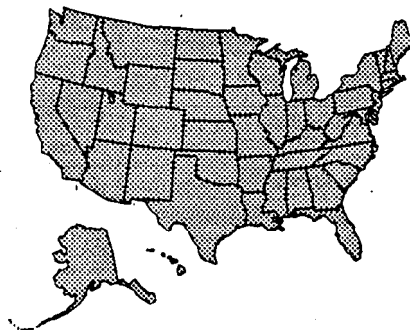
NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER

1-800-424-8802



SECOND, contact the nearest Coast Guard or EPA Regional Office spill line, and

THIRD report spills to the state, tribal land, territory, or commonwealth where the spill occurred. Contact information by region is provided in this guide.



When an oil spill enters into or threatens any navigable waters in the United States, coordinated teams of local, state, and national personnel are called upon to help contain the spill, clean it up, and assure that damage to human health and the environment is minimized. Without careful planning and clear organization, efforts to deal with large oil spills could be slow, ineffective, and potentially harmful to response personnel and the environment.

The U.S. EPA has established requirements for reporting spills in navigable waters or adjoining shorelines. Specifically, 40 CFR §110.10 requires facilities to report discharges of oil in quantities that may be harmful to public health or welfare or the environment. EPA has determined that discharges of oil in quantities that may be harmful include those that:

- ⇒ Violate applicable water quality standards;
- ⇒ Cause a film or "sheen" upon or discoloration of the surface of the water or adjoining shorelines; or
- ⇒ Cause a sludge or emulsion to be deposited beneath the surface of the water or upon adjoining shorelines.

Any person in charge of a vessel or onshore or offshore facility should notify the **National Response Center (NRC)** at **(800) 424-8802** as soon as he or she has knowledge of a discharge from a vessel or facility. Spills or releases of oil which reach navigable waters or adjoining shorelines (including storm drains) or land areas which may threaten waterways must always be reported to the NRC.

For example, during a routine facility inspection, maintenance personnel at a

facility discover that a drainage valve in a containment area has been left open and gasoline has leaked from a faulty fuel pump into the containment area. In this scenario, it is possible that gasoline has been released from the containment area and discharged into a nearby storm drain, creek, or dry ditch. If the facility has received any precipitation, then the probability of a discharge is high. In both cases, the NRC should be notified immediately.

What are Navigable Waters of the U.S.?

The legal definition for navigable waters is defined generally under Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 502(7). EPA's regulatory definition can be found at 40 CFR 110.1.

For the purposes of 40 CFR Part 112, the term *navigable waters* means the waters of the United States, including the territorial seas, and includes:

- All waters that are currently used, were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide.
- All interstate waters, including interstate wetlands, mudflats, and sandflats;
- All other waters such as intrastate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), wetlands, mudflats, sandflats, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds, the use, degradation, or destruction of which could affect interstate or foreign commerce including any waters that could be used for recreational purposes, or from which fish or shellfish could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce; or that are used or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce.

The CWA has been interpreted to cover all surface waters, including any waterway within the U.S. Also included are normally dry creeks through which water may flow and ultimately end up in public waters, such as a river, stream, tributary to a river or stream, lake reservoir, bay, gulf, sea, or ocean within or adjacent to the U.S. The CWA's jurisdictional reach may also include groundwater if it is directly connected hydrologically with surface waters.

Facilities should also be aware of state, tribal and local requirements for spill reporting. For example, there may be a requirement to report all spills meeting certain quantity thresholds even if the spill does not leave a contained area.



Reporting to the National Response Center

When you contact the National Response Center, the staff person will ask you for the following information:

- ▣ Your name, location, organization, and telephone number.
- ▣ Name and address of the party responsible for the incident.
- ▣ Date and time of the incident.
- ▣ Location of the incident.
- ▣ Source and cause of the release or spill.
- ▣ Types of material(s) released or spilled.
- ▣ Quantity of materials released or spilled.
- ▣ Danger or threat posed by the release or spill.
- ▣ Number and types of injuries (if any).
- ▣ Weather conditions at the incident location.
- ▣ Any other information that may help emergency personnel respond to the incident.

The National Response Center records and maintains all spill reports in a computer database called the Emergency Response Notification System (ERNS), which is available to the public. The National Response Center relays the spill information

to the U.S. EPA or U.S. Coast Guard, depending on the location of the incident. Specifically, representatives of the U.S. EPA or



U.S. Coast Guard, known as On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs), are notified.

★ Spill Response

The first and most immediate response is that of the facility. For this reason, the facility's equipment and the quantity, operation, and location of its response equipment and supplies are all critical to effective oil recovery.

SPCC/FRP Regulated Facilities (or Substantial Harm Facilities)

Within the SPCC-regulated community, facilities that may cause substantial harm to the environment or exclusive economic zone based on the quantity and location of their oil storage are required to prepare Facility Response Plans (FRPs) in accordance with 40 CFR 112.20 and 112.21 to ensure that these facilities have the capability to respond to worst case scenario discharges. FRPs greatly assist the facility and response agencies to expedite and coordinate cleanup efforts.

Other SPCC Regulated Facilities

It is recommended that all other facilities in the SPCC-regulated community be prepared to respond to a spill by identifying control and response measures in their SPCC Plans. Every facility should have appropriate spill response equipment available and easily accessible. The best place to keep spill kits is in a cabinet or locker near the tanker car and truck loading/unloading racks and the storage tanks. Absorbent pads and booms, disposal containers or bags, shovels, an emergency response guidebook, and a fire extinguisher are essential components of a spill kit. Portable pumps are also a good investment.

It is also recommended that facilities coordinate with local responders, other nearby facilities, and contractors before a spill occurs so that response is accomplished most efficiently.

Facility personnel, including seasonal employees, must be educated and trained in spill response, notification, and oil recovery. By being prepared to respond, the impact of a discharge on human health or the environment may be minimized and cleanup costs and fines resulting from improper notification or response reduced.

First Response

In the event of an oil spill, the facility response plan is immediately activated. Depending on the nature of the spill, local, area, regional, or national plans may also be activated. The OSC will activate these plans if the facility is not equipped or capable of handling the response.

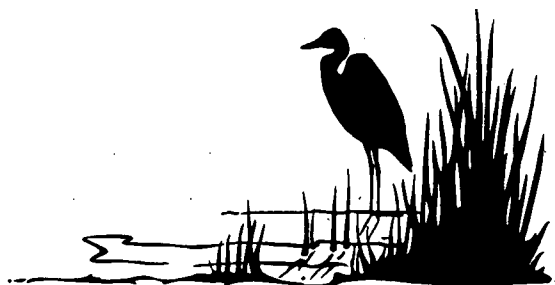
On-Scene Coordinators

OSCs from the U.S. EPA or U.S. Coast Guard are responsible for determining the human and equipment resources required to respond to a spill based on his or her assessment of the magnitude of the spill. The OSC is responsible for coordinating federal efforts with local, state, and regional response communities. Small spills may be cleaned up by the facility (or responsible party) or local response agencies while larger spills may require regional response efforts. In either case, the OSC is required to oversee and monitor the spill response to make sure that all appropriate actions to prevent threats to human health or the environment are taken. If chemical agents are being considered, OSC and RRT approval for their use may be necessary. However, if a facility is handling a smaller

spill adequately, the OSC may not go to the site.

★ Oil Recovery

The OSC, response teams, and a network of experienced agencies will decide on the most effective method of cleanup. These agencies must coordinate cleanup efforts carefully and efficiently to protect response personnel, recreational areas, drinking water reservoirs, and wildlife from the potentially catastrophic effects of an oil spill.



Oil products can be grouped by type: petroleum products, both crude and refined; vegetable oils and animal fats, edible and unrefined; and other nonpetroleum oils. Refined petroleum products differ in their physical and chemical characteristics and thus have different levels of persistence in the environment. The most common refined petroleum products and their characteristics are as follows:

Gasoline: a lightweight substance that flows easily, spreads quickly, and evaporates readily under temperate conditions. Gasoline is highly volatile and flammable so it poses a risk of fire and explosion. It is more toxic than crude oil.

Kerosene: a lightweight substance that flows easily, spreads rapidly, and evaporates

quickly. Kerosene is easily dispersed, but is relatively persistent in the environment.

No. 2 Fuel Oil: a lightweight substance that flows easily, spreads rapidly, and is easily dispersed. It is neither volatile nor likely to form emulsions. This oil is relatively nonpersistent in the environment.

No. 4 Fuel Oil: a medium weight substance that flows easily and is readily dispersed if treated promptly. It has a low volatility and moderate flash point. This fuel oil is fairly persistent in the environment.

No. 5 Fuel Oil (Bunker B): a medium to heavyweight substance, having a low volatility and moderate flash point. Preheating may be required in cold climates. Dispersion is very difficult (maybe impossible).

No. 6 Fuel Oil (Bunker C): a heavyweight substance that is difficult to pump and requires preheating for use. This oil may be heavier than water; it is not likely to dissolve, and is likely to form tar balls, lumps, and emulsions. It is difficult or impossible to disperse. It has a low volatility and moderate flash point.

Lubricating Oil: a medium weight substance that flows easily and is easily dispersed if treated promptly. This oil has a low volatility and moderate flash point, but is fairly persistent in the environment.

Vegetable oil and animal fats have similar physical properties and fall within the general range of behaviors of petroleum oils in the environment. Vegetable oils and animal fats are generally solids in water at ambient temperatures. One difference is that most vegetable oils and animal fats have low volatility as compared to petroleum oil. This results in less product removed

from a spill by evaporation and reduces the combustion and explosive potential of these oils. Other nonpetroleum oils also fall within the general behavior of petroleum oil when spilled into the environment.

What is an Oil?

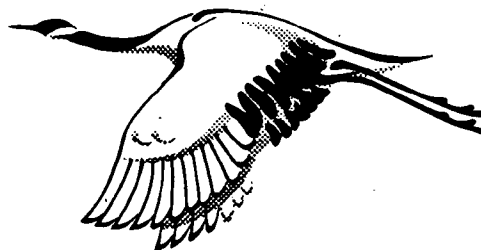
Oils are defined under several statutes including the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA). As a result, overlapping regulatory interpretations exist. For this reason, the U.S. EPA and the U.S. Coast Guard are currently developing a nationally consistent program policy and methodology for facilities to determine whether a given substance is considered an oil under the existing CWA.

Under the CWA, the definition of oil includes oil of any kind and any form, such as petroleum and nonpetroleum oils. Generally, oils fall into the following categories: crude oil and refined petroleum products, edible animal and vegetable oil, other oils of animal or vegetable origin, and other nonpetroleum oils.

Many substances are easily recognizable as oils (e.g., gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, kerosene, and crude oil). Under the CWA definition, many other substances are considered oils, which may not be easily recognizable by industry, including mineral oil, the oils of vegetable and animal origin and other nonpetroleum oils. Therefore, facilities should work closely with the EPA and USCG (if applicable) to make determinations for the substances they store, transfer, and refine.

Selecting the best method, or combination of methods, for recovering oil after a spill is based on several factors. The type and amount of oil spilled and the water body are the most important considerations. The mechanisms most frequently employed to control oil spills and minimize their impact on human health and the environment fall into

four broad categories: (1) mechanical containment or recovery includes booms, barriers, skimmers, and sorbent materials; (2) chemical and biological methods include dispersants, gelling agents, and biological agents; (3) physical methods include wiping, pressure washing, raking, and bulldozing, also scare tactics, such as floating dummies, to keep birds away from a spill area; and (4) natural processes, which include evaporation, oxidation, and biodegradation.



In addition to causing threats to human health when an oil spill (petroleum, vegetable oils, animal fats or nonpetroleum oil) occurs, significant environmental harm can occur as a result of the following: physical effects such as coating with oil, suffocation, contamination of eggs and destruction of food and habitat, short and long term toxic effects, pollution and shutdown of drinking water supplies, rancid smells, and fouling of beaches and recreational areas. Without immediate human intervention, many distressed birds and animals have no chance of survival, and only trained personnel are capable of wildlife rehabilitation activities. Birds and marine mammals affected by a spill are taken to treatment centers or temporary facilities for medical treatment and cleaning. These measures are not always effective and there are often losses due to an oil spill. The best approach to avoiding oil spills is a strong prevention program that includes adequate training of personnel in the operation of a facility, including equipment inspection and health and safety training, and knowledge of what steps to take when a spill occurs.

EPA Spill Lines	State/Tribal Land/Territory/Commonwealth Notification Contacts
<p>EPA Region 1 <i>Boston, Massachusetts</i></p> <p>(617) 223-7265</p>	<p>Connecticut <i>Department of Environmental Protection</i> <i>Oil & Chemical Emergency Response (860)424-3338</i></p> <p>Maine <i>Department of Environmental Protection</i> <i>In State (800) 482-0777</i> <i>Out of State (207) 822-6300</i> <i>Out of State/Nonbusiness Hours (207) 657-3030</i></p> <p>Massachusetts <i>Department of Environmental Protection</i> <i>Northeast Region (Woburn) (781) 932-7600</i> <i>Southeast Region (Lakeville) (508) 946-2850</i> <i>Central Region (Worcester) (508) 792-7653</i> <i>Western Region (Springfield) (413) 784-1100</i> <i>Nonbusiness Hours (888) 304-1133</i></p> <p>New Hampshire <i>New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services</i> <i>In State (603) 271-3503</i> <i>In State/Nonbusiness Hours (800) 346-4009</i> <i>Out of State/24 Hours (603) 271-3636</i></p> <p>Rhode Island <i>Department of Environmental Management</i> <i>During Business Hours (401) 277-3872</i> <i>In State/Nonbusiness Hours (800) 498-1336</i> <i>Out of State/Nonbusiness Hours (401) 277-3070</i></p> <p>Vermont <i>Agency of Natural Resources</i> <i>In State (800) 641-5005</i> <i>Out of State (802) 244-8721</i></p>

EPA Spill Lines	State/Tribal Land/Territory/Commonwealth Notification Contacts
EPA Region 2 <i>Edison, New Jersey</i> (732) 548-8730	New Jersey <i>New Jersey Dept. Of Environmental Protection (609) 292-7172</i> New York <i>New York State Dept. of Conservation (518) 457-7362</i> Puerto Rico <i>Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board (787) 756-2823</i> U.S. Virgin Islands <i>U.S. Virgin Islands Dept. of Planning & Natural Resources (340) 777-4577</i>
EPA Region 3 <i>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</i> (215) 566-3255	Delaware <i>Emergency Management Agency Business Hours (302) 834-4531 Nonbusiness Hours (302) 739-5851</i> <i>Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control 24 Hours (302) 739-5072</i> Maryland <i>Department of the Environment 24 Hours (410) 874-3551</i> Pennsylvania <i>Department of Environmental Protection (800) 541-2050 or (717) 787-4343</i> Virginia <i>Department of Emergency Services 24 Hours (804) 674-2400</i> <i>Department of Environmental Services 24 Hours (804) 527-5020</i> Washington D.C. <i>Mayor's Command Center 24 Hours (202) 727-6161</i> West Virginia <i>Division of Environmental Protection 24 Hours (800) 642-3074</i>

EPA Spill Lines	State/Tribal Land/Territory/Commonwealth Notification Contacts
<p>EPA Region 4 Atlanta, Georgia</p> <p>(404) 562-8700</p>	<p>Alabama <i>Department of Environmental Management</i> In State (800) 843-0699 Business Hours (334) 260-2700</p> <p>Florida <i>Department of Environmental Protection</i> In State (800) 320-0510 (904) 413-9911</p> <p>Georgia <i>Department of Natural Resources</i> (404) 656-4300</p> <p>Kentucky <i>Department of Environmental Protection</i> (800) 928-2380</p> <p>Mississippi <i>Department of Environmental Quality</i> (601) 352-9100</p> <p>North Carolina <i>Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources</i> Business Hours (919) 733-5291 Nonbusiness Hours (800) 858-0368</p> <p>South Carolina <i>Department of Health and Environmental Control</i> (803) 253-6488</p> <p>Tennessee <i>Department of Environment and Conservation</i> In State (800) 262-3300 Out of State (800) 258-3300</p>

EPA Spill Lines	State/Tribal Land/Territory/Commonwealth Notification Contacts
EPA Region 5 <i>Chicago,</i> <i>Illinois</i> (312) 353-2318	Illinois <i>Illinois Environmental Protection Agency</i> In State (800) 782-7860 Out of State (217) 782-7860 Indiana <i>Department of Environmental Management</i> (317) 233-7745 Ohio <i>Ohio Environmental Protection Agency</i> In State (800) 282-9378 Out of State (614) 224-0946 Michigan <i>Department of Environmental Quality</i> In State (800) 282-9378 Out of State (517) 373-7660 Minnesota <i>Minnesota Pollution Control Agency</i> In State (800) 422-0798 Out of State (612) 649-5451 Wisconsin (800) 943-0003

EPA Spill Lines	State/Tribal Land/Territory/Commonwealth Notification Contacts
<p>EPA Region 6 <i>Dallas,</i> <i>Texas</i></p> <p>(214) 665-2222</p>	<p>Arkansas <i>Office of Pollution Control and Ecology</i> Business Hours (501) 562-7444 <i>Office of Emergency Services (501) 374-1201 (24 hours)</i></p> <p>Louisiana <i>Department of Environmental Quality</i> 24 Hours (505) 342-1234</p> <p>New Mexico <i>Environment Department</i> 24 Hours (505) 827-9329 Business Hours (505) 827-0187</p> <p>Oklahoma <i>Department of Environmental Quality</i> 24 Hours (800) 522-0206 <i>Oil and Gas Pipelines and Production (405) 332-3441</i></p> <p>Texas <i>Natural Resources Conservation Commission</i> 24 Hours (512) 463-7777 <i>Railroad Commission for Oil and Gas Production and Pipelines</i> 24 Hours (512) 463-6788</p>
<p>EPA Region 7 <i>Kansas City, Kansas</i></p> <p>(913) 281-0991</p>	<p>Iowa <i>Emergency Response Commission</i> (515) 281-8694</p> <p>Kansas <i>Department of Health and Environment</i> (913) 296-1500</p> <p>Missouri <i>Department of Natural Resources</i> Emergency Response Unit (573) 634-2436</p> <p>Nebraska <i>Department of Environmental Quality</i> (402) 471-4545</p>

EPA Spill Lines	State/Tribal Land/Territory/Commonwealth Notification Contacts
<p>EPA Region 8 <i>Denver,</i> <i>Colorado</i></p> <p>(303) 293-1788</p>	<p>Colorado <i>Department of Public Health and Environment</i> 24 Hours (303) 756-4455</p> <p>Montana <i>Disaster and Emergency Services</i> 24 Hours (406) 444-6911</p> <p>North Dakota <i>State Radio</i> 24 Hours (701) 328-2121</p> <p>South Dakota <i>Division of Emergency Management</i> 24 Hours (605) 773-3296</p> <p>Utah <i>Department of Emergency Management</i> 24 Hours (801) 536-4123</p> <p>Wyoming <i>Department of Environmental Quality</i> 24 Hours (307) 777-7781</p>

EPA Spill Lines	State/Tribal Land/Territory/Commonwealth Notification Contacts
<p>EPA Region 9 <i>San Francisco, California</i></p> <p>(415) 744-2200</p>	<p>American Samoa <i>American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency</i> 011-684-633-2304/2305</p> <p>Arizona <i>Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), Division of Water Quality</i> Business Hours (602) 207-4255 24 Hours (602) 207-4261</p> <p>California <i>California's Office of Emergency Services, Warning Center</i> 24 Hours (916) 262-1621</p> <p>Guam <i>Guam Environmental Protection Agency</i> (671) 475-1633</p> <p>Hawaii <i>Hawaii Department of Health, Office of Hazard Evaluation & Emergency Response (HEER)</i> 24 Hours (808) 247-2191 Business Hours (808) 586-4249</p> <p>Nevada <i>Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP), Waste Management Division</i> (702) 687-4670 ext. 3043</p> <p>Northern Mariana Islands <i>Division of Environmental Quality</i> 011-670-234-6984/6114</p>

EPA Spill Lines	State/Tribal Land/Territory/Commonwealth Notification Contacts
<p>EPA Region 10 <i>Seattle, Washington</i></p> <p>(206) 553-1263</p>	<p>Alaska <i>Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation</i> Nonbusiness Hours (800) 478-9300 Anchorage (907) 269-7500 Fairbanks (907) 269-7500 Juneau (907) 465-5340</p> <p>Idaho <i>Idaho State Communications</i> (208) 334-4570</p> <p>Oregon <i>Oregon Emergency Management</i> (503) 378-6377</p> <p>Washington <i>Department of Ecology</i> <i>Northwest Regional Office</i> (206) 647-7000 <i>Southwest Regional Office</i> (360) 407-6300 <i>Central Regional Office</i> (509) 575-2490 <i>Eastern Regional Office</i> (509) 456-2926 24 Hours (800) 258-5990</p>

NOTICE

The statements in this document are intended solely as guidance. This document is not intended and cannot be relied upon to create rights, substantive or procedural, enforceable by any party in litigation with the United States.

