



Washington State Department of Ecology

Spill Prevention, Preparedness &
Response Program

Spill Response Section Duties

Provide Technical Assistance to Spill Responders and Responsible Parties.

- Health and Safety
- Chemical Research
- Coordinate Clean-up operations
- Work with RP to complete cleanup/assist clean up contractor

Duties, cont.

- Assist Law Enforcement with disposal of chemicals associated with clandestine labs.
- Work directly to contain spills.
- Provide field analysis of spilled materials or unknown containers
- Conduct preliminary resource damage assessment
- Evaluate Disposal Plans and Operations

Duties, continued

- Determine applicability of enforcement actions/coordinate response with other Ecology Programs
- Evaluate/assist in developing spill operations plans. Participate in spill drills.
- Develop and present educational programs to various client groups.

If you have a spill

Washington's regulations require you to immediately notify Ecology and other appropriate agencies when there is a spill or discharge of a dangerous waste or hazardous substance that poses a threat to human health or the environment.

You must take immediate action!

The responsible party must stop or control the spill and clean up released materials which may include shutting valves or up-righting overturned drums. Call 911 if you feel the spill is an emergency situation.

Once the spill is under control, the responsible party must:

- Report the spill
- Clean up the site
- Decontaminate the site
- Manage the waste properly
- Dispose of the waste properly

You can hire qualified spill contractors to do the clean up under the supervision of an environmental regulatory agency like Ecology

Spill reporting is required

You must immediately report any spill or discharge of a hazardous waste or substance which threatens human health or the environment regardless of the amount.

Ecology generally considers materials in contact with soil, surface or ground water, or the air as in the environment.

What you need to know before you report a spill

- Responsible party's name, company name, phone numbers, and address
- Location, time and date of incident
- Estimate if quantity released
- Nature of spilled material: name, quantity, placards, size of container, leaking?
- Responsible Party Information
- Spill to Water?
- Injuries or deaths?

How do I know if I spilled something that needs to be reported?

Materials with ignitable, corrosive, reactive, or toxic properties can threaten human health of the environment. You can get information about the hazards of a particular product or material from a variety of sources such as:

- Container labels and markings
- Material safety data sheets (MSDS)
- Shipping papers or manifest
- The Internet
- The US Dept. of Transportation
Emergency Response Guide (ERG)

If you are unsure if you should report a spill, contact Ecology or another spill responder for guidance.

Spill Reporting

- Spills or discharges to “containment” which are cleaned up in a timely manner typically do not need to be reported to Ecology.
- For example, shop floors or drip pads could be considered barriers (“containment”) to the environment
- No contact with the environment

Reporting Authorities in Washington State

- Local Authorities (Fire, Law enforcement)
- Washington State Dept of Emergency Management: 24hr Spill Number 1-800-258-5990
- Dept of Ecology Regional Offices
- Eastern Regional Office (Spokane) 509-329-3400 After 5pm directed to SDEM
- Central Regional Office (Yakima) 509-575-2490 After 5pm directed to SDEM

Spill Kits for Pesticide



Spill kit contents

- 10 Pads, Light Wt
- 2 Socks, 3"x48"
- 2 Pillows, 10"x10"
- 1 StarDust, 8oz Bag
- 1 Temp Disposal Bag
- 1 Plastic Zip Tie
- 1 Permanent Marker
- 1 Pr Nitrile Gloves
- 1 Pr Goggles
- 1 Mini Broom/Dust Pan
- 1 Roll Caution Tape
- 1 Set Labels
- 1 Tyvek Suite, XL
- Instruction Sheet

You may also need

- Kitty litter
- Plug kit
- Respiratory protection
- Over pack drum

How Ecology can help

- Provide information on the product spilled
- Provide contractor information for cleanup
- Technical assistance on cleanup and disposal
- Make any additional contacts to authorities
- Database on all spills reported in Washington State

Ecology contacts

During normal business hours 8am-5pm

ERO (Spokane) 509-329-3400

Mark Stephens 509-329-3512

Mike McCain 509-329-3457

CRO (Union Gap) 509-575-2490

Sam Hunn 509-961-8868

Andy Wilson 509-454-7829