

	<b>Bowling Green, Kentucky</b> <b>Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)</b> <b>Good Housekeeping Practices (GHPs)</b>	<b>GHP-05</b>
	<b>Activity: Spill Prevention and Control (SPC)</b>	

**PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS:**

**Training:**  
Yes

**Inspection Frequency:**  
Weekly

**Implementation Cost:**  
Low

**Monthly Maintenance:**  
Low



Target Pollutants				
Significant ♦	Partial ♦	Low or Unknown ♦		
Sediment ♦	Heavy Metals ♦	Nutrients ♦	Oxygen Demanding Substances ♦	Toxic Materials ♦
Oil & Grease ♦	Bacteria & Viruses ♦	Floatable Materials ♦	Construction Waste ♦	

**Description**

Leaks and spills increase the amount of pollution entering stormwater runoff. The reduction of chances of spills, stopping the source of spills, containing and cleaning up spills, properly disposing of spill material, and training employees all lead to a cleaner environment. The incorporation of this BMP and [GHP-04](#) (Material, Delivery, Storage, and Use) has information that will lead to a reduction toxic materials and oil and grease.

A number of familiar hazardous substances that affect construction sites are: soil stabilizers, palliatives, herbicides, growth inhibitors, fertilizers, deicing/anti-icing chemicals, fuels, lubricants, and other petroleum distillates.

**Approach**

Determine the criteria for defining significant and insignificant spills and which materials should be used in response for each incident. Review of the Materials Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) or other documentation will clarify what is and is not a significant spill. A few measures to follow concerning spill prevention and control:

**General Measures**

- Store hazardous materials and wastes in covered containers to protect against vandalism.
- Place a stockpile of spill cleanup materials where it will be readily accessible.
- Educate employees and subcontractors on potential dangers to humans and the environment that result from spills and leaks.
- Train employees in spill prevention and cleanup procedures for the site.

**Approach  
(cont'd)**

- Hold regular meetings to discuss and reinforce appropriate disposal procedures (incorporate into regular safety meetings).
- Establish a continuing education program to indoctrinate new employees.
- Designate a foreman or supervisor to oversee and enforce proper spill prevention and control measures.

**NOTE:** The first step for any spill cleanup, whether minor or significant, is for the employee to identify the spilled material or to find a co-worker that can do so. Once identified it may be necessary for personnel to use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) prior to continuing with the cleanup. If the spill is significant or hazardous, then it will likely require help from a local emergency response team with more experience.

**Cleanup**

- Clean up leaks and spills immediately.
- Use as little water as possible when cleaning spills. Use a rag for small spills, a damp mop for general cleanup, and absorbent material for larger spills. If the spilled material is hazardous, then the used cleanup materials are also hazardous and must be sent to either a certified laundry (rags) or disposed of as hazardous waste.
- Never hose down or bury dry material spills. Clean up as much of the material as possible and dispose of properly. See the waste management BMPs in this section for specific information.

**Minor Spills**

- Minor spills typically involve small quantities of oil, gasoline, paint, etc. which can be controlled by the first responder at the discovery of the spill.
- Use absorbent materials on small spills rather than hosing down or burying the spill.
- Remove the absorbent materials promptly and dispose of properly.
- The practice commonly followed for a minor spill is:
  1. Contain the spread of the spill.
  2. Recover spilled materials.
  3. Clean the contaminated area and/or properly dispose of contaminated materials.

**Semi-Significant Spills**

- Remove the absorbent materials promptly and dispose of properly.
- Semi-significant spills still can be controlled by the first responder along with the aid of other personnel such as laborers and the foreman, etc. This response may require the cessation of all other activities and the use of PPEs.
- Clean up spills immediately:
  1. Notify the project foreman immediately. The foreman shall notify the Engineer or Safety Manager.
  2. Determine if spill response construction personnel are qualified to perform the cleanup in a safe manner. Alert additional trained personnel if necessary including a Haz-Mat team or dial 911 for local authorities.
  3. Contain spread of the spill.

**Approach  
(cont'd)**

4. If the spill occurs on paved or impermeable surfaces, clean up using "dry" methods (absorbent materials, cat litter and/or rags). Contain the spill by encircling with absorbent materials and do not let the spill spread widely.
5. If the spill occurs during rain, cover spill with tarps or other material to prevent contaminating runoff.

**Significant/Hazardous Spills**

For significant or hazardous spills that cannot be controlled by personnel in the immediate vicinity, the following steps shall be taken:

1. Notify the Engineer immediately and follow up with a written report.
2. Notify the local emergency response by dialing 911. In addition to 911, the contractor will notify the proper county officials. It is the contractor's responsibility to have all emergency phone numbers at the construction site.
3. For spills of state reportable quantities or into a waterbody or adjoining shoreline, the contractor shall notify the Kentucky Division of Water (KDOW) general hotline – environmental assistance at 1-800-928-2380.
4. For spills of federal reportable quantities or into a waterbody or adjoining shoreline, the contractor shall notify the National Response Center at (800) 424-8802.
5. Notification should first be made by telephone and followed up with a written report.
6. The services of a spill contractor or a Haz-Mat team shall be obtained immediately. Construction personnel should not attempt to clean up until the appropriate and qualified staff has arrived at the job site.
7. Other agencies which may need to be consulted include, but are not limited to, the Fire Department, the Public Works Department, the City/County Police Department, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), etc.

See [GHP-12](#) and [-13](#) for details about spill prevention and control while maintaining or fueling vehicles and equipment.

**Maintenance**

- Keep an ample supply of spill control and cleanup material on-site, near storage, unloading and maintenance areas.
- Employee Training

**Inspection  
Checklist**

- Required amount of clean up material available at the site.
- Employees clearly understand their duties when a spill occurs.