

What to Do When a Spill Occurs

Provided by Agricom, Inc.

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1. Wear available protective clothing, gloves and safety apparatus.
2. Remove any injured persons from the spill. Consult the Material Safety Data Sheet for first aid information.
3. Control the spill as quickly as possible. Upright any overturned containers and contain the spill with any material available. Sand, dirt, or lime can be used to keep a spill from spreading. Every dealership should have absorbent material readily available for spills.
4. If the spill occurs on a roadway, contact the county sheriff, Highway Patrol, or DOT enforcement to provide traffic control.
5. Begin clean-up of the spill as soon as the situation is under control.
6. Contact the appropriate agency, such as the Department of Natural Resources. They will need the following information:
 - Chemical name (CAS # if available)
 - Tell them if the material is an extremely hazardous substance (EHS).
(These are the same EHS products listed on your Tier II form).
 - Quantity released or your best estimate.
 - Time and duration of the release.
 - Location of the release.
 - Was it released into air, water, or soil?
 - Any health effects - long or short term (this can be found on the MSDS).
 - Emergency Procedures being followed.
 - Name and telephone number of a contact person,

In Iowa, you have six hours from the time of release or discovery of a release to report to DNR. Hazardous materials do not have reportable quantities (RQ), so all spills must be reported.

If a spill occurs within the boundaries of your property or within a contaminated area, it does not have to be reported.

If a release of an extremely hazardous substance (EHS) occurs in excess of one hundred pounds or the RQ, whichever is lower, the National Response Center (NRC) must be notified within fifteen minutes of the release or discovery of the release. Their number is 800-424-8802.