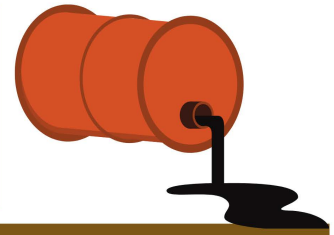




Spills Awareness Initiative

Opiikapawiin aims to:

- Educate community members about long lasting effects of spills
- Highlight the project's spill response program
- Educate membership about how to take care of spills at home



Spills

When left unattended, spills from everyday fluids like gas, engine oil, coolant and transmission fluids can be very harmful to the environment and specifically water bodies.

Most spilled fluids eventually find their way into water bodies (surface water or groundwater aquifers). Once they reach the water table, they are very hard to clean up and remove. Besides contaminating water and soil, spilled fuel fluids can be toxic to plants and animals that use the water or soil. Only a small amount of fluid can pollute a large amount of water - one litre of engine oil can pollute thousands of litres of water! The best ways to keep these harmful fluids out of the environment is prevention and response!

Wataynikaneyap Spill Plan

One of the most common environmental incidents that can happen on the Wataynikaneyap project is spills. Despite best efforts by the project team, unfortunately spills still happen. In cold weather, the number of spills typically increases due to the hydraulic lines and tubes becoming brittle and more likely to break.

Valard and Wataynikaneyap take spills very seriously and have many preventative and response measures in place to reduce the number of spills and to stop and clean up spills when they occur.



Wataynikaneyap Spill Prevention Strategies

- ➔ Designate fuel storage and re-fueling areas at least 30m (~100ft) away from waterbodies and ensure containment measures in place (e.g. such as liners, portable berms).
- ➔ Use containment and spill trays when transferring liquids or working near environmentally sensitive areas (waterbodies).
- ➔ Use double-walled fuel tanks which are harder to puncture and less likely to leak.
- ➔ Ensure fuel storage tanks have drainage controls including secondary containment tanks.
- ➔ Maintain equipment and inspect regularly for cleanliness, leaks, excess oil or grease. If leaks or drips are identified, contain them and relocate equipment for repair.
- ➔ Ensure all vehicles are equipped with spill kits (hydrocarbon soaker-pads) for quick access to address small leaks and spills.



If you have any questions about the content provided within this information sheet, please contact Opiikapawiin's Indigenous Environmental Lead, Conor Lee Kam, at: email: c.leekam@oslp.ca // phone: (807) 474-3300, ext. 209 // cell: (807) 632-7043

Spill Response

When a spill happens on the project, Valard has trained all workers to follow these 6 steps:

1. Be Safe – Assess the Risk:

- Never rush in.
- Warn others in the area.
- If safe to do so, identify product and select appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) using the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).
- Eliminate all sources of ignition.
- Stay upwind of vapours.



2. Call for Assistance:

- Call a co-worker, supervisor, Safety Department or Environmental Officer for help.



3. Stop the Flow:

- If safe to do so, set containers upright.
- Close valves, shut off pumps, plug leaks.
- Place contents of a leaking container into a secure container.



4. Contain the Spill:

- Block drains, culverts, outlets, and other escape points.
- Contain spill with absorbent materials such as earth, sand or other non-combustible materials.
- Do not use detergents to disperse oil products.



5. Clean up:

- Collect all used sorbent material using clean non-sparking tools.
- Place all waste materials in labeled, sealed containers or plastic bags.
- Use appropriate waste contractor for disposal.



6. Report:

- Report details of the spill verbally to a Supervisor, Environmental Monitor or to the Safety department. Complete a Valard Environment Incident Report (EIR) as required (See Valard EMS)
- Determine the requirement for external reporting based on the volume and type of release.



Spills at Home

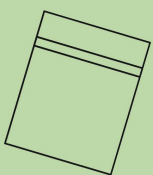
Prevent

- Store and refuel away from water bodies.
- Use spill trays when working on engines and transferring fluids (engine oil)
- Tighten bolts on your engine to prevent oil leaks. Bolts can shake loose with engine use.
- Replace cracked or worn hydraulic lines and fittings before they fail. Lines can wear out from sun and heat exposure or abrasion.
- Outfit your engine with an oil tray or drip pan. You do not need anything fancy or expensive; a cookie sheet or paint tray will do the trick.

Response

- Stop the flow!
- Contain the spill. Use absorbent pads to block the spill, sawdust and cat litter also works to absorb spills.
- Clean up. Remove all absorbent material. Materials should be treated as hazardous waste and disposed of accordingly.
- Contact your band office and public works to see how to properly dispose of hazardous waste in your community.

Homemade Spill Kits



1. **Large Ziploc Bag** • Conveniently holds and stores spill kit materials in one spot. Clearly label the outside of the kit, "Spill Kit" so that you can easily find it if you need it.
2. **Safety goggles** • Protect eyes - one of the most sensitive areas of the human body - from chemical exposure.
3. **Safety Gloves** • Protect hands from engine oil, gas and other fluids
4. **Garbage bags** • To easily handle leaky or spilled material.
5. **Absorbent material such as cat litter, oil absorbent, activated charcoal or sawdust** • These materials help soak up liquid spills so they can be swept up and disposed of properly.