



RUSSELLVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT
POLICY MANUAL

Policy Number:
Section:
Original Date:
Revised Date:

PURPOSE

The purpose of this standard operating policy is to establish procedures for mitigating hydrocarbon spills.

POLICY

The mitigation of a hydrocarbon spill should be handled in a manner to ensure the safety of citizens and a concern for the environment. As with all incidents, good judgment on the part of the Incident Commander is essential.

Most hydrocarbon incidents can be properly managed by the use of diking, oil dry, or by simply washing the liquid into an area for the hydrocarbon to safely evaporate. The following criteria should be followed but circumstances at each incident can be different, therefore, the Incident Commander will have to rely on his best judgment.

1. 1-5 gallons of a hydrocarbon liquid may be washed into an area for the liquid to safely evaporate if the procedure does not create an undue harm to the environment. This should be done only if the liquid presents an immediate fire hazard, otherwise absorb instead.
2. Amounts exceeding 5 gallons should be removed with an absorbent (i.e. oil dry, clay, kitty litter, etc.) and properly disposed of. Disposal of the product is the responsibility of the spiller or the property owner.
3. When diking is required to prevent run-off, consideration should be given to covering the liquid with foam to help prevent exposure to personnel and ignition of the escaping vapors. Commercially available absorbents may also be used if they are approved for use on water.

When quantities of a hydrocarbon liquid in excess of 5 gallons are released into the environment the local Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) representative should be notified at 968-7339. If unable to notify an ADEQ representative, all notification requirements can be complied with by calling the Arkansas Department Emergency Management 1-800-322-4012. Also, if any hydrocarbon liquid enters any waters of the State and creates sheen on the water's surface ADEQ and the Arkansas Game and Fish should be notified.

Approved

Fire Chief

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