

If you witness or cause an oil, paint or other chemical spill or large sediment release to a storm drain, ditch or watercourse in Campbell River, follow this procedure to minimize environmental harm.

REPORTING SPILLS

All spills, including significant sediment releases, must immediately be reported to Emergency Management BC (EMBC). Spills and releases should also be reported to Report All Poachers and Polluters (RAPP), Observe Record Report (ORR), and the City of Campbell River Dogwood Operations Centre.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BC: 1-800-663-3456

- **If you are the spiller, reporting to EMBC is a legal requirement**
- If you observe a spill, reporting to EMBC is advised, especially if the spill is large

REPORT ALL POACHERS AND POLLUTERS (RAPP): 1-877-952-7277

OBSERVE RECORD REPORT (ORR): 1-800-465-4336

CITY OF CAMPBELL RIVER BYLAW ENFORCEMENT: 1-250-286-5776

****CALLING THESE NUMBERS DOES NOT NECESSARILY TRIGGER CONTAINMENT OF THE SPILL AND CLEAN UP****

CLEAN UP

If the spiller is unknown or does not have the means to clean the spill, the organizations listed below may have the capacity to respond.

CITY OF CAMPBELL RIVER DOGWOOD OPERATIONS: 250-286-4033

- To initiate spill containment and potential clean-up within City limits, call the City's Dogwood Operations Centre
- **On weekends and after hours, the message will direct you to call the emergency number 250-287-7444 – this goes to the Fire Department, who will page the appropriate department to attend**

COAST GUARD: 1-800-889-8852

- For spills in the marine environment including the Campbell River estuary, report to the Canadian Coast Guard, Marine Communications & Traffic Services (M.C.T.S.)

SPILL REPORTING TIPS

Where possible, the following information is important to note before reporting a spill:

1. Contact information for
 - a. The individual making the report
 - b. The responsible person in relation to the spill
 - c. The owner of the substance spilled
2. Date and time of the spill
3. Location of the spill
4. Description of the spill and the surrounding area
5. Approximate quantity of the spill
6. The substance that was spilled
7. Description of the source of the spill
8. Names of any provincial, federal, local, and/or First Nations government agencies at the spill site

IF YOU CAUSED THE SPILL

If you are responsible for a spill of any hazardous substance or a sediment release, you are responsible under the *BC Spill Reporting Act* for reporting and cleaning up the spill, in addition to submitting follow-up documents required by the Province. For spill clean up, follow these steps:

1. **Determine the risk of the spill**
 - a. Determine the conditions and hazards that are associated with the spill area
 - b. If the spill is a dangerous material, reference the substance's WHMIS Material Data Safety Sheet to ensure all necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) is available
 - c. If the spill is life-threatening, **call 9-11**, then **skip to step 6**.
2. **Stop the spill**
 - a. Stop the spill at its source (turn off any equipment, close any valves, seal any leaks, ensure any containers are upright, etc.)
 - b. Ensure that all sources of the spill are dealt with
 - c. If the means are not available to complete this task, **skip to step 6**
3. **Define the spill area**
 - a. Where necessary, mark the spill area (use flagging tape, cones, fencing, barriers, etc.)
 - b. Ensure that nobody drives or walks through the spill area to prevent the spill from spreading
 - c. If the means are not available to complete this task (where necessary), **skip to step 6**
4. **Contain the spill**
 - a. Prioritize stopping the spill from entering storm drains or waterways
 - b. **Dam, dike, or divert** the spill with:
 - i. A spill kit
 - ii. A proper sorbent
 - iii. Other materials on hand (towel, tarps, boxes, etc.)
 - c. Ensure that the spill is fully contained
 - d. If the means are not available to complete this task, **skip to step 6**

5. Clean the spill

- a. Soaking up the spill is the best way to clean it. A professional spill response contractor may be required to complete this step properly
- b. Spread an absorbent material (spill recovery pads, TSP, sawdust, clay-based cat litter, etc.) over the spill
- c. Allow the spill to be absorbed, then discard the material into a hazardous waste bin
- d. Repeat steps b. and c. until the spill is cleaned
- e. DO NOT discard the waste from the spill in the garbage. It is a hazardous substance; contact a professional in hazardous waste disposal to determine method and location for appropriate disposal
- f. Ensure that the spill is fully cleaned
- g. If the means are not available to complete this task, **skip to step 6**

6. Report the spill

- a. When a spill or a risk of a spill has occurred, it must be reported to Emergency Management BC
- b. Spills are reportable if they meet the spill quantity requirements in **Table 1** or if they could impact a body of water
- c. If the spill occurs on, or goes through, City-owned land, ensure that Dogwood Operations Centre is contacted

Table 1. Reportable Spills as defined in the *Environmental Management Act* Spill Reporting Regulation

Item	Substance Spilled	Specified Amount
1	Class 1, Explosives as defined in section 2.9 of the Federal Regulations	50 kg, or less if the substance poses a danger to public safety
2	Class 2.1, Flammable Gases, other than natural gas, as defined in section 2.14 (a) of the Federal Regulations	10 kg
3	Class 2.2 Non-Flammable and Non-Toxic Gases as defined in section 2.14 (b) of the Federal Regulations	10 kg
4	Class 2.3, Toxic Gases as defined in section 2.14 (c) of the Federal Regulations	5 kg
5	Class 3, Flammable Liquids as defined in section 2.18 of the Federal Regulations	100 L
6	Class 4, Flammable Solids as defined in section 2.20 of the Federal Regulations	25 kg
7	Class 5.1, Oxidizing Substances as defined in section 2.24 (a) of the Federal Regulations	50 kg or 50 L

8	Class 5.2, Organic Peroxides as defined in section 2.24 (b) of the Federal Regulations	1 kg or 1 L
9	Class 6.1, Toxic Substances as defined in section 2.27 (a) of the Federal Regulations	5 kg or 5 L
10	Class 6.2, Infectious Substances as defined in section 2.27 (b) of the Federal Regulations	1 kg or 1 L, or less if the waste poses a danger to public safety or the environment
11	Class 7, Radioactive Materials as defined in section 2.37 of the Federal Regulations	Any quantity that could pose a danger to public safety and an emission level greater than the emission level established in section 20 of the Packaging and Transport of Nuclear Substances Regulations, 2015 (Canada)
12	Class 8, Corrosives as defined in section 2.40 of the Federal Regulations	5 kg or 5 L
13	Class 9, Miscellaneous Products, Substances or Organisms as defined in section 2.43 of the Federal Regulations	25 kg or 25 L
14	Waste containing dioxin as defined in section 1 of the Hazardous Waste Regulation	1 kg or 1 L, or less if the waste poses a danger to public safety or the environment
15	Leachable toxic waste as defined in section 1 of the Hazardous Waste Regulation	25 kg or 25 L
16	Waste containing polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons as defined in section 1 of the hazardous Waste Regulation	5 kg or 5 L
17	Waste asbestos as defined in section 1 of the Hazardous Waste Regulation	50 kg
18	Waste oil as defined in section 1 of the Hazardous Waste Regulation	100 L
19	Waste containing a pest control product as defined in section 1 of the Hazardous Waste Regulation	5 kg or 5 L
20	PCB Wastes as defined in section 1 of the Hazardous Waste Regulation	25 kg or 25 L
21	Waste containing tetrachloroethylene as defined in section 1 of the Hazardous Waste Regulation	50 kg or 50 L
22	Biomedical waste as defined in section 1 of the Hazardous Waste Regulation	1 kg or 1 L, or less if the waste poses a danger to public safety or the environment

23	A hazardous waste as defined in section 1 of the Hazardous Waste Regulation and not covered under items 1 – 22	25 kg or 25 L
24	A substance, not covered by items 1 to 23, that can cause pollution	200 kg or 200 L
25	Natural gas	10 kg, if there is a breakage in a pipeline or fitting operated above 100 psi that results in a sudden and uncontrolled release of natural gas

AGENCIES INVOLVED:

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BC

Emergency Management BC (EMBC) falls under the provincial Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, and is responsible for coordinating British Columbia’s Provincial Spill Response. They are the primary contact for all pollution occurrences, and work in collaboration with municipalities, Environment Canada, the Canadian Coast Guard, First Nations, and the Minister of Environment to determine the status and logistics of cleaning spills. The BC Spill Reporting Regulation under the Environmental Management Act requires all spills must be reported to them by the party responsible for the spill.

EMBC operates under the “Polluter Pays” principle - the person who caused the spill is responsible for cleaning it up and paying for it. Environmental Emergency branch staff are assigned to spill preparedness, response, and recovery; however, the organization does not offer clean-up services. If it is required, they may send Environmental Emergency Response Officers to ensure a spill clean-up is meeting provincial standards.

EMBC was formerly known as the Provincial Emergency Program or PEP.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND OCEANS

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) is a federal agency that maintains a 24/7 reporting line “Observe, Record, Report” (ORR) in British Columbia. Its purpose is to collect information and investigate those committing environmental offences, including polluting marine areas with spills. ORR does not offer help with spill clean-up or send immediate responders to the scene. Reports can be submitted to ORR by phone or email to DFO.ORR-ONS.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

DFO is responsible for investigating incidents involving the discharge of sediments into fish habitat and to determine if fish are affected. DFO may take on role of lead investigator of any Sec 36 violation where appropriate. Spills and effluent under section 36 Fisheries Act (the deposit of deleterious substances into waters frequented by fish) are directed to Environment Canada. Environment Canada is also responsible for all federally licensed facilities and discharges from land to the marine waters.

CANADIAN COAST GUARD

The Canadian Coast Guard is responsible for pollution from vessels. Coordinated through the duty officer at Marine Communications & Traffic Services (M.C.T.S.), they are the primary contact for pollutants in the marine environment. The Coast Guard coordinates spill response, protects natural resources at risk, and assesses marine pollution reports.

When a spill occurs, the Coast Guard works in coordination with multiple parties, including the polluter and municipal, provincial, and federal governments, to resolve the emergency. It is the polluter's responsibility to either use their own resources or hire a certified response organization to clean up the spill. In the case that the polluter is unknown, has an insufficient response, or is in foreign waters, the Coast Guard will assume responsibility of spill clean-up. [View the guidelines for submitting a report.](#)

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

The British Columbia Conservation Officer Service operates the Report all Poachers and Polluters (RAPP) line. Through the RAPP line, the Province collects information regarding violations of wildlife, fisheries, or environmental protection laws in non-marine areas. Dumping chemicals, oil, or any substance that can impact the environment negatively are included in their reportable violations. [Reports can be submitted online](#) or by calling in the case of an emergency. In a similar fashion to the ORR line, the RAPP line will assign the appropriate provincial agency enforcement personnel for follow up.

CITY OF CAMPBELL RIVER

The City of Campbell River responds to spills on City-owned public land where there is a threat of contamination of watercourses and the storm drainage system. Calls for assistance go to Dogwood Operations who organize containment, clean up and tracking spills back through the system where possible. On weekends and after hours, phoning Dogwood Operations will direct a caller to an emergency number at the Fire Department for follow up and spill containment. The City also operates under the "Polluter Pays" framework and expenses for clean-up may be charged back to the responsible party. Depending on the nature of the spill, the City may retain a Qualified Environmental Professional.

Spills and sediment releases entering a watercourse, including a ditch, and the stormwater system may also be investigated by the City's Bylaw Department in relation to compliance under the City's Environmental Protection Bylaw. The bylaw prescribes that it an offence to deposit any substances that could foul watercourses or the storm drainage system.