

Talk 1: Spill Prevention & Response



Why This Matters

Even small spills of fuel, oil, chemicals, or hazardous materials can contaminate soil and water, causing lasting environmental damage. Prevention and quick response are critical to protecting our environment and avoiding costly fines.

Common Spill Risks

- ✓ Fuel and oil leaks from vehicles and equipment
- ✓ Hydraulic fluid leaks
- ✓ Chemical containers that are damaged or improperly stored
- ✓ Overfilling during refueling or transfer operations
- ✓ Storm water washing spills into drains and waterways

Prevention Best Practices

- ✓ Conduct daily pre-start inspections of all vehicles and equipment for leaks
- ✓ Always use drip trays under stationary equipment and during refueling
- ✓ Refuel vehicles on level ground away from drains
- ✓ Store chemicals in bunded areas with proper labeling
- ✓ Never overfill tanks – leave space for expansion
- ✓ Keep spill kits accessible and check they're fully stocked
- ✓ Ensure all containers are sealed properly when not in use

If A Spill Occurs - Take Action Immediately!

1. **STOP** the source if safe to do so
2. **CONTAIN** the spill using absorbent materials or spill kit
3. **REPORT** to your supervisor immediately
4. **CLEAN UP** properly – dispose of contaminated materials as hazardous waste
5. **NEVER** hose spills down drains or into the ground

Spill Kit Location & Contents

Spill kits are located: [Insert site-specific locations]

Every kit should contain: Absorbent pads, absorbent socks, disposal bags, gloves, and instructions

Discussion Points

- ✓ Where are the spill kits located on our site?
- ✓ Who has used a spill kit before? What was your experience?
- ✓ Have you noticed any equipment leaking recently?
- ✓ Any questions about spill response procedures?

Remember: Every Spill Matters!

Don't ignore small drips or leaks. They add up over time and can cause serious environmental harm. Report all leaks immediately.