Introduction

Welcome to the Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures (SPCC) Training course.

The ultimate goal of this course is to help you recognize the ways you can avoid pollution of the local waterways with oil or near oil-contaminated run-offs.

After completing this course you should be able to:

1. Recognize that there is a UAB SPCC Plan in place.
2. Demonstrate the:
    a. Proper procedures for preventing oil spills.
    b. Correct way to respond to both small and large oil releases/spills.
3. Identify and report potential oil spill pathways.
4. Apply procedures that will protect access points that might allow possible oil spills into waterways.

Why You Must Take This Training

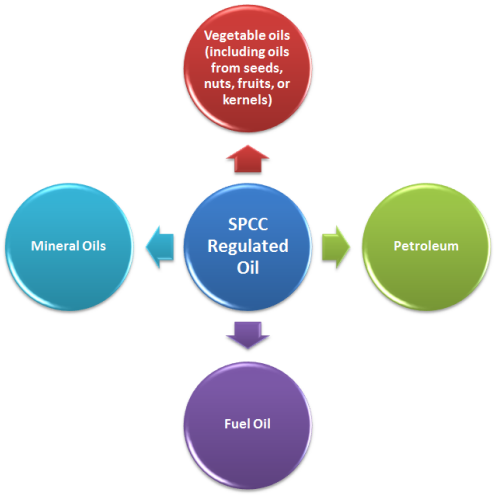
The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) closely monitors what is and is not allowed into the sewers and surface waters as per ADEM Administrative Code r. 335-6--.12(r).

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) also regulates this activity in an oversight role to ADEM.

Part of the regulations require that you take an annual SPCC renewal course. There will be another SPCC course released at the beginning of the new year.

Definition of Oil

This chart shows what the EPA defines as oil. This is not all inclusive, but it covers the oils used here at UAB.



The SPCC Plan

Both the State and Federal Spill Prevention Control Countermeasures Rule includes requirements for:

1. Oil spill prevention.
2. Preparedness.
3. Response to prevent oil discharges to navigable waters and adjoining shorelines.
4. Preparation, amendment, and implementation of SPCC Plans for facilities. Those facilities include:
    - Above ground oil storage of more than 1,320 gallons.
    - Underground oil storage of more than 42,000 gallons.

Navigable Waterways

The SPCC Rule applies to storage of petroleum products in locations where a spill could potentially reach navigable waterways.

Shown here is an oil spill that has made its way to a creek.

Underground oil storage is not covered in this course. If you have questions about underground storage of oil or oil products, please contact Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) at (205) 934-2487.

UAB's SPCC Plan

The UAB SPCC Plan includes:

1. A description of the oil storage locations on the UAB campus.
2. A description of the secondary containment for oil storage.
3. Maps or other information to indicate where a release will migrate.
4. Spill history, potential spill sources, and spill prevention techniques.
5. A spill contingency plan.
6. Other applicable guidelines.

This is a summary of UAB's SPCC Plan. What we need you to remember is to do job correctly when working with or around oil or oil-products.

Spills

There are two types of releases/spills.

Large Spills

A large spill is anything 25 gallons or more of oil or an oil spill that has the potential of entering a natural waterway.

Large releases/spills would most likely occur during:

- Loading or unloading operations.
- Catastrophic tank failure.
- Fuel tank failure during delivery.

Large Release/Spill Response

When a large release/spill occurs, you should:

1. Immediately contact your supervisor/manager or David Hagan, Director of the Environmental Management Program. (205)-934-2487.
2. If a large release/spill occurs at night, on a weekend, or on a holiday, please contact the OH&S Director-On-Call. This information is located on the OH&S website.

Who to contact

As we've said before, a large release/spill is anything greater than 25 gallons **OR** any quantity that has reached a surface water, sewer, ditch, or culvert leading to surface water.

When a release/spill is large, immediately contact the UAB Emergency Coordinator. The UAB Emergency Coordinator will respond and contact one or more municipal, state, or federal agencies as well as be responsible for the oversight of the cleanup.

The phone numbers of OH&S, the UAB Emergency Coordinator, and the Director-On-Call are listed on the OH&S website. You may want to post these numbers in locations near oil locations.

Do NOT call the Birmingham Police, Fire Department, or any other regulatory agency. This is the job of the Emergency Coordinator.

Small Spills

A small spill is a spill of less than 25 gallons of oil – like the one shown here.

- Small overfills at the fill port on fuel tanks
- Spills during transfers to or from tanks and containers
- Leaks or failures of oil handling equipment (tanks, containers, pipes, pumps)

Small Release/Spill Response

Follow these steps to properly clean up a small release/spill.

1. Render (make) the area safe
    a. Turn off the oil flow if possible
    b. Notify personnel in the area.
2. Put on the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
3. Stop and/or contain the release as soon as possible.
4. Protect all the drains and the bare ground in the area.
5. Clean up the spill wiping from the outside of the release/spill toward the inside.

Documenting

1. Notify your supervisor, manager, and OH&S (if necessary)
2. Document the details of the incident.
    - Write down the cause of the release/spill.
    - Record where it happened.
    - Estimate and list the amount of the spill.
    - Note the date and time of the release/spill.
    - List details of how you cleaned up the release/spill.
    - Explain how you disposed of the contaminated materials used to clean up the release/spill.

Who to contact

For small releases/spills, notify your supervisor, manager, or Principal Investigator (PI). You may also notify the UAB Emergency Coordinator (or the designee) or the OH&S depending on the type, size, and location of the spill.

Response

Below is a list of things you should know and do during an oil spill:

- Have enough spill control materials on hand to accommodate the release of the largest container stored.
- Ensure that tanks, berms, and thresholds are high enough to contain the contents for removal.
- Use booms, spill pillows, loose absorbent (e.g., clay, kitty litter, etc.) container for disposal of clean up waste.
- Wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when cleaning up a spill – the appropriate gloves, eyewear (if needed), and a disposable gown (if needed and if available to avoid contamination of your clothes).

Click on the link to a video on How To Clean Up A Spill.

Materials

There are several types of materials that can be used to absorb oil from a spill:

Portable Spill Berms (some are called pigs)

Absorbent materials such as paper towels, clay, kitty litter, peat moss, vermiculite, saw dust, old towels.

Drain Mats

Disposal

Oil Waste and Contaminated Materials

Dispose of all cleanup materials properly. Do not throw these in the regular trash!

- Properly package the oil waste and the contaminated materials used for cleanup.
- Label the package correctly use the instructions listed in the Hazardous Waste Handling and Packing course or use the job aids on the website to assist you.
- Follow the instructions listed inside the PDF file of the Hazardous Waste Manifest to accurately manifest the oil waste and the contaminated materials used for cleanup. Manifest submitted incorrectly will be returned for correction before pickup.

If you have not taken the hazardous Waste Handling and Packing course (CS055) within the last 365 days, your waste will **not** be picked up. Remember, there is an annual renewal requirement for the course.

Above Ground Storage Container Requirements

The following are requirements when working with and/or around Above Ground Storage Containers.

- Use secondary containment (such as large containers) to surround primary containers such as:
  - Spill pallets
  - Raised thresholds
  - Sealed floors
  - Door lip - "runner"
  - Drip pan
  - Constructed curbs or berms
- Drains in the secondary containment of outdoor Above Ground Storage Containers must be kept closed except to drain rain water.
- Rain water that collects in the secondary containment of Above Ground Storage Containers must be inspected for oil contamination (sheen) before being released.
- Inspections for leaks and spills in and around the containers must be performed regularly.

Problems and Issues

Issues to avoid

Below are some common violations from other colleges and universities. You are responsible for keeping these from becoming violations here at UAB.

- Designated staff do not conduct regular walk-through inspections of locations
- Small, scattered Above Ground Storage Containers, especially in dormitory locations, are not adequately protected from tampering/vandalism
- Inadequate training and lack of training documentation
- Missing or inadequate secondary containment

- Failure to include vegetable oils/kitchen grease as regulated petroleum
- Failure to keep adequate documentation for past spills

UAB Common Issues

OH&S has noticed that there are a few common issues that we deal with frequently. If you see these, please correct them as soon as possible.

Spills going into storm drains

No secondary containers for some primary containers

Kitchen grease storage with spillage

Summary

Here are a few things we want you take away from this training.

- Annual training is required for employees handling oil products.
- Releases/spills must be contained, cleaned up, and reported as soon as possible.
- Containers and tanks require appropriate secondary containment.
- Inspections must take place regularly.
- A complete spill kit (containing the appropriate items needed for an oil release/spill) on location.

Conclusion

This concludes the SPCC Training course. Please take the assessment at this time. 80% or higher is required to pass. You may take the assessment three times. If you fail all three times, you will fail the course and have to take it again.

For further assistance or information:

- Contact David Hagan, Director of the Environmental Management Program, via email at jdhagan@uab.edu or OH&S at (205)-934-2487.
- Visit the OH&S website at www.uab.edu/ohs.