

AUTOMOTIVE FLUID SPILL MITIGATION

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Purpose: *The Okolona Fire Department is frequently called to respond to auto accident scenes for the purpose of mitigating adverse environmental effects from spills of automotive fluids. The purpose of this procedure is to comply with applicable regulations and rules pertaining to the release of hazardous materials incidents.*

Procedure:

1. Response of units shall be done in accordance with established response tables.
2. All mitigation incidents shall be presumed to be of a non-emergency nature unless otherwise determined by the incident commander, except when there is a report of gasoline spillage.
3. When arriving at the scenes of accidents, caution shall be taken to ensure a safe working environment for responders.
4. Occasionally accident scenes may be treated by law enforcement agencies as crime scenes. Unless necessary for public safety purposes, no debris shall be moved, nor absorbent materials be used, unless approved by the police officer in charge of conducting the investigation.
5. If the fluid(s) spilled exceed reportable quantities, or enters into storm sewers, ditch, or creeks, the appropriate hazardous materials incident level shall be declared through radio.
6. When approved by the police officer conducting the accident investigation, absorbent materials may be applied to spilled fluids.
7. After the absorbents have had sufficient time to absorb the spilled fluids, the absorbent is to be placed in five (5) gallon pails with lids to be closed, unless the spill is a minor amount as determined by the Incident Commander. When absorbents are collected, an effort shall be made to complete any paperwork with the mitigation kit pail.
8. These containers have been deemed to NOT be Hazardous Waste. The containers are to be transported to Station One for temporary storage.
9. Used mitigation kits are to be stored at Station One for a maximum of ten (10) days. They are to be delivered to the MSD authorized location within this ten (10) day period, unless approved by the fire chief.

Standard Operating Procedures are meant only to be guidelines. Actual conditions may warrant alternative actions.