

## Pesticide Spill Contingency Plan Outline

### Section 1 Emergency Telephone Numbers

#### Spills and Clean-up

Canadian Coast Guard (Environmental Emergencies).....709 772-2083  
Environment Canada.....1-800-563-9089  
CANUTEC.....1-888-CAN-UTEC (226-8832)

NL Poison Advise Line.....1-844-POISON X (1-844-764-7669)

#### Pesticide Information

Pest Management Information Service.....1-800-267-6315  
CANUTEC (Information/Regulatory Inquiries).....613 992-4624 (collect calls accepted)

#### Other Emergency Response Numbers

Emergency Services.....709 729-3703

#### Fire Departments – 911 or:

#### Police Departments – 911 or:

RCMP province wide.....1-800-709-7267

#### Ambulance – 911 or:

## Section 2

## Spill Reporting Instructions

2.1 Report spill to Canadian Coast Guard (Environmental Emergencies) **709 772-2083** or Environment Canada **1-800-563-9089** with the following information:

- Reporters - Name, phone number (24 hour), address, title, company.
- Location - Nearest populated area - exact location of spill
- Type of Emergency - e.g. insecticide spill
- Quantity - Litres, barrels, size of area affected
- Time
  - of spill
  - of detection
  - of report received
- Source of spill - tank, pipe, truck, container, etc.
- Type of accident - Collision, rupture, overflow, etc.
- Owner of pollutant and/or vehicle
- Clean-up efforts - by whom, address, phone number, percentage cleaned up
- Clean-up methods
  - what methods used - trenching, booming, damming, absorbents, dyking, removal, etc.
- Spill Site Conditions
  - wind velocity and direction
  - ambient temperatures
  - water - open water, wave height, currents, depths, and tides
  - % ice cover if any
  - spill on or under ice
  - land - % snow cover and depth, if any
  - type of terrain - bog, sand, soil, etc.
- Contingency Plan
  - Is there a plan?
  - Is it in action?

- Assistance needed?
- Danger Potential
  - Course of spill - water intakes, water fowl, fish shorelines, vegetation, mammals.

### **Section 3 Pesticide Spill**

#### **Company manager or designate take appropriate action**

- 3.1 Wear Protective Clothing and Personal Protective Equipment when cleaning up any spills. Ventilate the area, if enclosed, keep bystanders and animals away, and follow safety practices (no smoking, eating or drinking during clean-up etc.).
- 3.2 Check the label and SDS for instructions and the registrant's emergency phone number.
- 3.3 Contain and control the spilled material. Cover liquid spills with absorbent material. Prevent the spill from entering storm drains, wells, water systems and waterways.
- 3.4 Call Environment Canada's emergency number if the spill is likely to:
  - harm the environment;
  - injure or damage property, livestock or people;
  - affect safety of the area;
  - interfere with normal activities.
- 3.5 Clean up the spill. Follow emergency guidelines if provided, otherwise: sweep or shovel absorbent material into a designated solid waste container lined with a heavy duty plastic bag. Dry formulations can be swept up and reused or placed directly into the designated waste container if they are wet or contaminated.
- 3.6 Decontaminate the spill area.
  - Decontaminate hard surfaces by:
    - using as small amount of wash water as possible (only enough to extract the pesticide, not dilute it);
    - containing the wash water to the contaminated area;
    - using bleach only when specified on the label;
    - working the cleaning material into the spill area with a coarse broom;
    - absorbing the excess liquid with more absorbent material, then sweeping it into the special waste container;

- sealing the waste container, placing a warning label on it and storing it until it can be properly disposed of. If unsure of how to dispose of the material, contact the Pesticides Control Section at 729-2556.
- For soil contamination:
  - Contact the manufacturer or the Pesticides Control Section at 729-2556 for information on decontaminating soil saturated with pesticide.
- For information on minor application errors or minor spills, refer to the Safety Data Sheets (SDS).

3.7 Decontaminate clean-up equipment and protective gear.

3.8 Shower.

#### **Section 4 Spill Response Kit (Emergency Response Materials)**

- **Applicators should have a decontamination kit on hand, fully equipped, and easy to get in an emergency. Inspect the kit regularly. Label the kit properly.**
- An example of a well equipped spill response kit is:
  - heavy duty detergent;
  - absorbent material;
  - laundry bleach;
  - hydrated lime ( do not mix bleach and lime);
  - square mouthed shovels or spades;
  - yard brooms;
  - hand pump with hose;
  - open-head drums with lids or sealable drums;
  - heavy duty plastic bags;
  - NOISH approved respirator with Organic Vapour cartridges and prefilters;
  - safety goggles;
  - industrial chemical resistant gloves;
  - chemical resistant boots;
  - coveralls.

#### **Section 5 Fires**

- Pesticide fires are hazardous because:
  - pesticides are flammable;
  - a few pesticides could be explosive;
  - some pesticides produce highly toxic fumes when they burn;

- the toxicity and hazards of many pesticides burning together in the same fire are unknown;
- fumes may poison people (including fire fighters), animals, or plants;
- and the run-off water from fire fighting may contain pesticide residue that could contaminate soil, sewers, streams, lakes, wells, and other water sources.
- Be prepared to respond to a fire involving pesticides by:
  - keeping an inventory of stored pesticides in easily accessible locations away from the storage area;
  - letting the fire department know where the pesticides are stored;
  - posting a warning sign on all entrances to the storage facility;
  - keeping emergency phone numbers handy;
  - keeping a fire extinguisher approved for chemical fires near the storage area.
- If a fire occurs:
  - call the fire department immediately;
  - account for all personnel;
  - keep people and animals away/upwind from the area so they are not exposed to toxic fumes, run-off or explosions;
  - remind fire fighters that pesticides are in the building;
  - provide the fire fighters with an inventory list;
  - report fire involving pesticides to the Pesticides Control Section at 729-6054.
- Prevent fires by;
  - not using open flames for welding, burning, cutting, etc. in the pesticide storage;
  - making sure the pesticide storage follows the required codes;
  - securing doors and windows to prevent unauthorized people from entering your property.

## **Section 6 Theft**

- Help prevent theft of pesticides by always keeping pesticides securely stored. The owner may be liable in the event of an accident. If pesticides are stolen, inform the provincial regulatory authority, the supplier, and the police.

## **Section 7 First Aid**

- First aid provides immediate assistance (will help stabilize a person and sustain life) until medical help can be reached.
- If a person feels ill during or after handling pesticides, seek medical attention

immediately.

- People working with pesticides or closely associated with pesticide applicators should be familiar with:
  - the relevant emergency phone numbers;
  - signs and symptoms of pesticide poisonings;
  - first aid for pesticide poisoning for the products being used;
  - where the application takes place;
  - when the applicator will return.
- Post emergency phone numbers by the phone and in all vehicles.
- The following items should be available for emergency response near the application site and pesticide storage area:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>
clean water	drinking, washing skin or eyes
soap	washing pesticide off skin
gloves	protecting person administering first aid
cup	for drinking
face mask	protection during mouth to mouth resuscitation
bandages	prevents pesticides entering wound
blanket	cover victim
phone numbers	to get help
paper towel	cleaning
plastic bag	collecting vomit

PLUS:

Activated charcoal absorbs pesticide in stomach. This remedy IS **ONLY TO BE ADMINISTERED UPON INSTRUCTION OF A POISON CONTROL CENTRE OR DOCTOR, AND IF THE PATIENT IS ALERT.**

- Specific emergency procedures for dermal exposure, oral exposure, ocular exposure, or respiratory exposure are below.
- Always treat respiratory exposure first, eye contamination second, skin contamination third and ingestion fourth.
- Applicators could suffer from both physical injury and a pesticide accident at the same time. Internal injuries usually take precedence over the contamination.

**DERMAL:**

1. Remove contaminated clothing, including footwear.
2. Immediately drench skin with water. Cold water is preferred; hot water opens pores

and increases absorption.

3. Wash skin and hair with soap and water; clean fingernails and toenails.
4. Get medical help.

#### **For Chemical Burns:**

1. If a shower is available, enter the shower first and then remove contaminated clothing.
2. If no shower is available, remove contaminated clothing.
3. Wash with lots of running water.
4. Cover burned area with loose, wet, clean cloth. DO NOT apply anything to burn.
5. Get medical help.

#### **ORAL:**

1. Get medical help immediately.
2. Read the label for instructions.
3. Do not induce vomiting unless specifically indicated on the label. Do not induce vomiting if the person is unconscious or having convulsions or if corrosive material is swallowed. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious or drowsy person.
4. To induce vomiting, give person water, position the person upright in a sitting or standing position and gently tickle the back of the throat with a finger or blunt object. Collect some of the vomitus for the doctor.

#### **EYE:**

1. Hold eyelid open and wash eye immediately with clean running water for 15 minutes or more.
2. Get medical help.

#### **RESPIRATORY:**

(NOTE: If person is in an enclosed space, don't forget to protect yourself).

1. Move person to fresh air.
2. Loosen tight clothing.
3. Apply artificial respiration if breathing has stopped. Place blanket underneath person's shoulder and tilt the head back with the chin forward to clear air passages.
4. Prevent chilling or overheating.
5. Keep person quiet.
6. Get medical help.

If person is having a seizure/convulsion, lay the person down in safe surroundings. Do not forcibly restrain them.

- Information that the medical personnel need to know about a pesticide poisoning is:
  - name of pesticide (active ingredient), label and container if possible;
  - type of exposure;
  - symptoms;
  - registration number ( the PCP number on the front panel of product label);
  - length of exposure or amount ingested;
  - age and weight of person exposed;
  - first aid performed;
  - pre-existing medical conditions (check for medical alert bracelet or necklace).
- If full recovery takes place after first aid measures, seek assessment by medical personnel before person returns to work.
- Study what went wrong to avoid accident recurrence and review emergency response plan.

### **Section 8 Labels/Safety Data Sheets (SDS)**

*\*\*\*\*Operators are required to have copies of the pesticide labels AND SDS of the pesticides that they have in their storage.*