

# Diesel & Gasoline Spills Quick-Reference Guide

## What You Should Do in Case of a Diesel or Gasoline Spill

This quick-reference guide provides general guidance for mitigating the release of diesel, gasoline, and other vehicle fluids from commercial trucks and tankers involved in transportation-related incidents. The Arkansas Department of Energy & Environment (E&E), Emergency Management (EM) is providing this guidance to answer the questions most frequently asked by remediation professionals responding to these incidents.

### 1.

## Notifications

Immediately report transportation-related spills of 25 gallons or greater on land or any amount in water to the Arkansas Department of Energy & Environment, Emergency Management at **501-682-0716**.

**Contaminated Waterway:** If the release enters a waterway, also report the spill to the National Response Center (NRC) at **1-800-424-8802**.

**Important Note:** Remember, if you are reporting a spill, leak, or release of petroleum products, hazardous materials, gases, or a geohazard event that requires an immediate emergency response, please call the Arkansas Division of Emergency Management (ADEM) at **1-800-322-4012**.

### 2.

## Response Actions

**STOP the release.** If safety permits, utilize appropriate measures to stop the release. *(For example, install a temporary patch on the rupture and/or pump fuel from the leaking tank to another approved container.)*

**CONTAIN the release.** The immediate objective is to prevent the release from impacting water resources. *(Booms, dikes, portable fuel-spill containment berms, or other improvised field-expedient methods should be considered.)*

**REMEDiate the release.** Remove as much of the spilled material from the environment as is feasible.

**Spills contained to the roadway:** Absorbents and/or a vac-truck may be used to remove free liquids.

**Minor spills off the roadway:** A surface scrape and removal of debris from the impacted area may suffice for minor spills with minimal absorption into the soil.

**Larger spills off the roadway:** Where contaminants have absorbed more deeply into the soil, contaminated soils will need to be removed. (See "Soil Excavation" section.) Typically, the contaminated area will be excavated to native soil with no visible staining or odor.

**CONTACT E&E EM at 501-682-0716 or 1-800-327-8411 if:**

Groundwater is encountered during excavation, or groundwater contamination is suspected;

Excavation is not possible and an alternative remediation method will be necessary;

You are unable to provide appropriate clean-up services in accordance with this guidance; or

The spill necessitates guidance beyond the information provided in this quick-reference guide.

# 3.

## Soil Excavation

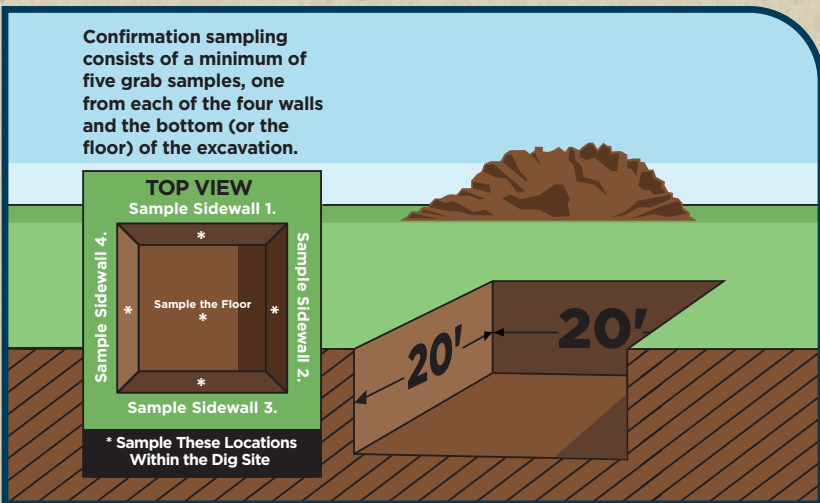
**BEFORE beginning any soil-excavation activities, call:**

**Arkansas One Call: 811 or 1-800-482-8998.**

**The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT),** if spill occurred within its right-of-way. *(After initial emergency response operations have been completed, any further activities within the right-of-way may require an ARDOT Special Use Permit. For contact information, visit the ARDOT website at: <https://www.ardot.gov/permits/special-permit/>.)*

**The property owner,** if excavating on private property. Excavated soil may be stored in lined and covered containers for no longer than ten days while active remediation is ongoing. Excavated soil may be disposed of at a permitted landfill. Contact the landfill for further guidance.

**Confirmation sampling** consists of taking a minimum of five grab samples, one from each side wall and one from the bottom of the excavation for every 400 square feet of excavation area. For releases to ditches, one grab sample should be taken at release or entry point, and one grab sample should be taken every twenty feet. All samples should be analyzed separately. Additional samples may be required for further delineation where deemed necessary. Contact the destination lab for guidance regarding sample containers, preservatives, shipping requirements, and other details related to analytical lab procedures. Contact E&E EM for additional guidance.



**Sample analysis** of soil is required for gasoline, diesel, and oil spills. Gasoline spill soil samples will be tested for Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, and Xylene (BTEX). Diesel and oil spill soil samples will be tested for BTEX and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs). These screening levels are only applicable when soil excavations do not exceed two vertical feet and are backfilled with clean soil. These screening levels are solely based on human direct contact and are not protective of ecological direct contact.

### Chemicals of Concern

### Screening Level

|                          |              |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Benzene                  | 80.7 mg/kg   |
| Toluene                  | 10,400 mg/kg |
| Ethylbenzene             | 1210 mg/kg   |
| Xylene                   | 462 mg/kg    |
| Benzo(a)pyrene from PAHs | 61 mg/kg     |



# 4.

## Spill Response Checklist

- Spill notifications** *(See "Notifications" section, front page.)*
  - ADEM 1-800-322-4012**
  - NRC 1-800-424-8802** *(Call, if the release enters a waterway.)*

- Insurance company & contact information**

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- Spilled product (in gallons)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Gasoline**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Diesel**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Hydraulic fluid**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Oil**



- Surface water nearby?**

- \_\_\_\_\_ **How close?**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Name of water body?**

- Did contamination reach surface water?**

*(If so, boom, pad, vac, & contact E&E EM)*

- Soil excavation notifications**

*(See "Soil Excavation" section.)*

- Arkansas One Call 811 or 1-800-482-8998**
- ARDOT, if on its right-of-way**  
*ARDOT Contact list: <https://www.ardot.gov/districts>*
- Property owner, if excavating on private property**  
*(Contact the County Tax Assessor to identify the property owner.)*

- Visibly-contaminated soil excavated**

*(See "Response Actions" section.)*

- Contaminated soil properly staged and/or disposed?**

*(See "Soil Excavation" section.)*

- Was groundwater encountered during excavation?**

*(If so, contact E&E EM.)*

- Did excavation exceed 24" in depth?**

*(If so, contact E&E EM.)*

- Confirmation sampling completed**

*(See "Confirmation Sampling" section.)*

- Do confirmation samples meet screening levels?**

*(See "Sample Analysis" section.)*

- Final report submitted to E&E EM for review & approval**

*(See "Spill Report Guidance" section.)*

# 5.

## Spill Report Guidance

The responsible party should submit a final report to E&E EM no later than thirty days after the completion of remediation activities. The report should include the following:



**Date, time, & location of the incident**  
(address, city, county, & GPS coordinates)



**Releaser of material**  
(name, address, & contact information)



**Cleanup contractor**  
(name, address, & contact information)



**All actions taken**  
from start to finish



**Before & after photographs**  
of the remediation activities



**Site sketch**  
identifying numbered sample locations & depth



**Total amounts**  
of materials spilled and recovered



**Copy of disposal profile,**  
if required by the landfill



**Analytical results**  
including QA/QC, analytical methods, & chain(s)  
of custody

Email the report to the E&E EM at:  
[emergencymanagement@adeq.state.ar.us](mailto:emergencymanagement@adeq.state.ar.us)  
Electronic delivery of the final report is preferred. If electronic delivery is not possible, mail or deliver the report to the Arkansas Department of Energy & Environment, E&E Emergency Response Coordinator, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118.

