



**ARCADIA FIRE DEPARTMENT
STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE**

FLAMMABLE LIQUID SPILLS

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Approved: _____
Michael E. Lang, Fire Chief

PURPOSE

To provide a guideline to Department personnel involved in the handling of a flammable liquid spill.

RESPONSIBILITY

It shall be the responsibility of all Department personnel to follow these guidelines in the handling of flammable liquid spills to insure safety of firefighters and citizens and to protect the environment from unnecessary contamination.

PROCEDURE

A. Upon Arrival

1. When approaching the scene, slow down or stop if necessary to assess any visible action-taking place, is the situation active or static?
2. Attempt to determine hazardous area.
3. Determine if rescue or evacuation of civilians is necessary.
4. Formulate an incident action plan (IAP)
 - a. Safety of firefighters and citizens.
 - b. Evacuation of endangered area if necessary.
 - c. Control of situation.
 - d. Stabilization of spilled material.
 - e. Disposal or removal of spilled material.
5. If determined to be in excess of 42 gallons consider a HAZMAT response.
 - a. Written incident action plan (IAP)
 - b. Incident Safety Officer (Assuring personnel safety and anticipating additional hazards.)
 - c. Exclusion, Contamination Reduction and Support zones (Hot, Warm, Cold)
 - d. Assistant Safety Officer (Responsible for creating the site safety, and site entry plan. This position is normally filled and handled by the HAZMAT Company Officer.)

B. Safety

1. All personnel should be in full protective clothing.
2. Have hose line charged, and/or extinguisher pulled and ready.
3. Safety Officer (may be company officer).
4. Keep all bystanders away from hazardous area.
5. Remove all ignition sources in the hazard area.
6. Park apparatus up hill and up wind from hazard.

C. Confinement

1. Do not permit the flammable liquid to run off into storm drains, sewers or drainage systems
2. Isolate the spill to the smallest possible area using the following techniques:
 - a. Absorbents
 - b. Diking
 - c. Damming
 - d. Diversion

D. Control

1. Attempt to stop leak by shutting off valves.
2. Attempt to plug leak with appropriate plugging device.
 - a. Plug and dike
 - b. Redwood plug

E. Notification

1. Notification to the Office of Emergency Services (OES) is required under the following conditions:
 - a. All significant spills or threatened releases of hazardous materials, including oil must be made immediately reported. Liquid spills of 42 gallons or more must be reported to OES.
 - b. Any material that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant present or threatened hazard to human health and safety or to the environment, if released into the workplace or the environment.¹
2. Contact Numbers
 - a. OES Warning Center: (916) 845-8911
 - b. OES 24 Hour Hot Line: (800) 852-7550
 - c. OES Local Office: (562) 795-2900

F. Disposal

1. Have a tow company remove absorbent.
2. Contact Arcadia Public Works to remove absorbent once product has been positively identified.
3. For large spills a private contractor, specializing in hazardous waste clean-up, may be required.

¹ OES Hazardous Materials Unit, California Hazardous Material Spill/Release Notification Guidance, (Nov. 2011) p.13