

JBLM Quick Response Guide
For an Individual Discovering a Petroleum, Chemical, or Dangerous Waste Spill

An individual discovering a petroleum or hazardous substance spill will take the actions listed below.

Caution must be exercised. The primary concern in all actions taken must be the protection of personnel and others from effects of the spill.

The sequence in which actions will be performed will depend on the circumstances.

- **PROTECT** self and others from harm.

EVACUATE THE PREMISES, if necessary.

ONLY IF IT CAN BE DONE SAFELY, take the following steps:

- Approach spills from upwind if possible.
- Avoid physical contact with spilled chemicals or petroleum products.
- Use appropriate protective clothing.
- Extinguish smoking materials away from the spill.
- Remove other sources of potential ignition.
- Avoid generating static electricity which can ignite flammable liquids or gases.
- Place the area off limits to unauthorized personnel.

- **CALL 911 to report the spill, with the following exceptions:**

- Small spills located in shops or shop areas that are routinely cleaned up by shop personnel in the course of daily work.
- For spills less than 5 gallons that do not enter a storm drain, water or soil, call DPW Environmental Services at 253-967-4786.

- **STOP THE FLOW**, if possible.

ONLY IF IT CAN BE DONE SAFELY, take the following steps:

- Close the valve.
- Turn a ruptured or punctured container so the point of exit is up.
- Place the leaking container in another container (over-pack drum).

- **CONTAIN THE SPILL**, if possible.

ONLY IF IT CAN BE DONE SAFELY, take the following steps:

- Protect floor or storm drains (cover with a mat; isolate and surround with absorbents).
- Place sand, sawdust, sweeping compound, sandbags in the path of flow.
- Place dry sweep, absorbent pillows, pads and/or mats to contain the spill.
- Assist the initial response team, normally from Fire & Emergency Services. Upon arrival, the Senior Fire Officer (Incident Commander) will assume control at the scene.