

# Hazardous Materials

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***Best Management Practices***

*for water quality while  
harvesting forest products*

# Hazardous Materials

**TIMBER HARVESTING ACTIVITIES REQUIRE THE USE OF FUELS AND LUBRICANT IN A VARIETY OF EQUIPMENT. SOME TOXIC POLLUTANTS IN THE WASTE MATERIALS GENERATED FROM LOGGING OPERATIONS INCLUDE VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS SUCH AS FUELS, LUBRICATING OIL, AND SOLVENTS, WHICH ARE TOXIC AT VERY LOW CONCENTRATIONS.**

Precautions are needed to prevent water and soil contamination. Proper storage, handling and use of hazardous materials are critical to the protection of water and soil quality before, during, and after timber harvesting operations. The best way an operator can reduce their potential liability from these materials is to maintain a clean harvesting site.

**The spill of any Hazardous Materials must be reported to:  
DEP Oil & Chemical Spill Response Division:**

**(860) 424 - 3338**

**If the spill leaves the designated timber harvest site, or enters a body of water. It is required to contact the National Response Center,**

**(800) 424 -8802**

### *Hazardous Materials*

These recommendations should be followed when using any hazardous material on the timber harvest operation:

- Maintain and store equipment, hazardous materials, and supplies away from water bodies.
- Develop plans for handling spills during the planning of the harvest.
- Inspect and maintain equipment regularly. Check all hoses, fittings and seals to prevent leakage or spills.
- Collect waste oil, hydraulic fluid, and other hazardous materials and transport them off-site for proper disposal.
- Store all waste lubricants, containers, and trash in separate, leak-proof containers until they can be transported off-site for recycling, reuse, or disposal at an approved site. Mixing of wastes can result in an increase in the cost of disposal.
- Provide vehicles with the equipment necessary for spill containment and a clean-up kit appropriate for the equipment being used. At a minimum, kits should contain: plugs and clamps to control hydraulic line breaks, a container to contain leaking fluids, a shovel, and absorbent material such as sawdust or kitty litter.

Contact the Division of Forestry for information on how and where to obtain a spill kit.

- Develop a plan to properly handle hazardous materials that are drained in the case of an equipment breakdown.
- All federal, state, and local rules and regulations should be followed regarding the use, transport, storage, spillage and disposal of hazardous materials, their containers, and their wash water.