

FUEL AND OIL HANDLING

Introduction

Spills, leaks, and overfilling can occur during handling of fuels and petroleum-based materials, representing a potential source of stormwater pollution, even in small volumes. The goal of this written Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to provide guidance to municipal employees on a variety of ways by which fuel and petroleum-based materials can be delivered, as well as steps to be taken when petroleum products (such as waste oil) are loaded onto vehicles for offsite disposal or recycling. Delivery, unloading, and loading of waste oils are hereafter referred to as “handling.” Handling is primarily conducted by the vendor, however the Town signs-off on delivery and provides this SOP to vendors for review.

Procedures

The Town will implement the following fuel and oil handling procedures to help reduce the discharge of pollutants from the MS4:

General Guidelines

For all manners of fuel and oil handling described below, a member of the facility’s Pollution Prevention Team (if the facility has a SWPPP) or another knowledgeable person familiar with the facility should be present during handling procedures. This person should ensure that the following are observed:

- There is no smoking while fuel handling is in process or underway.
- Sources of flame are kept away while fuel handling is being completed. This includes smoking, lighting matches, carrying any flame, or carrying a lighted cigar, pipe, or cigarette.
- The delivery vehicle’s hand brake is set and wheels are chocked while the activity is being completed.
- Catch basins and drain manholes are adequately protected.
- No tools are to be used that could damage fuel or oil containers or the delivery vehicle.
- No flammable liquid should be unloaded from any motor vehicle while the engine is operating, unless the engine of the motor vehicle is required to be used for the operation of a pump.
- Ensure that local traffic does not interfere with fuel transfer operations. If it does, make appropriate accommodations.
- The attending persons should watch for any leaks or spills:
 - Any small leaks or spills should be immediately stopped, and spilled materials absorbed and disposed of properly. Follow the procedures in the Spill Response and Cleanup SOP.
 - In the event of a large spill or one that discharges to surface waters or an engineered storm drain system, the facility representative should activate the facility’s Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and report the incident as specified in the document.

Delivery by Bulk (Tanker) Truck

Procedures for the delivery of bulk fuel should include the following:

The truck driver should check in with the facility upon arrival.

- The Town facility representative should ensure that the appropriate spill cleanup and response equipment and personal protective equipment are readily available and easily accessible. Refer to the SOP for Spill Response and Cleanup for examples of spill cleanup and response materials.
- The facility representative or contractor should check to ensure that the amount of delivery does not exceed the available capacity of the tank.
 - A level gauge can be used to verify the level in the tank.
 - If a level gauge is not functioning or is not present on the tank, the tank should be stick tested prior to filling.
- The facility representative or contractor should remain with the vehicle during the delivery process.
- The facility representative or contractor should inspect all visible lines, connections, and valves for leaks.
- When delivery is complete and the hoses are removed, buckets should be placed underneath connection points to catch drippings.
- The delivery vehicle should be inspected prior to departure to ensure that the hose is disconnected from the tank.
- The facility representative or contractor should inspect the fuel tank to verify that no leaks have occurred, or that any leaked or spilled material has been cleaned and disposed of properly.
- The facility representative or contractor should gauge tank levels to ensure that the proper amount of fuel is delivered, and provide a receipt from the truck driver.

Delivery of Drummed Materials

Drummed materials may include motor oil, hydraulic fluid, transmission fluid, or waste oil from another facility (as approved). Procedures for the delivery of drummed materials should include the following:

- The contractor should check in with the facility upon arrival.
- The facility representative or contractor should ensure that the appropriate spill cleanup and response equipment and personal protective equipment are readily available and easily accessible. Refer to the SOP for Spill Response and Cleanup for examples of spill cleanup and response materials.
- The facility representative should closely examine the shipment for damaged drums.
 - If damaged drums are found, they should be closely inspected for leaks or punctures.
 - Breached drums should be removed to a dry, well-ventilated area and the contents transferred to other suitable containers.
 - Drums should be disposed of in accordance with all applicable regulations.
- Drummed materials should not be unloaded outdoors during wet weather events.
- The facility representative or contractor should remain with the vehicle during the delivery process.
- Drums should be handled and unloaded carefully to prevent damage.

- Upon completion of unloading, the facility representative or contractor should inspect the unloading point and the drums to verify that no leaks have occurred, that any leaked or spilled material has been cleaned up and disposed of properly, and that the unloaded drums are not leaking.
- The facility representative or contractor should check to ensure that the proper amount of fuel or other material is delivered, and provide a receipt from the truck driver.

Removal of Waste Oil from the Facility

When waste oil or similar oil products need to be removed from the premises, only haulers certified to transport waste oil should be utilized. Procedures should include the following:

- The contractor should check in with the facility upon arrival.
- The facility representative or contractor should ensure that the appropriate spill cleanup and response equipment and personal protective equipment are readily available and easily accessible. Refer to the Spill Response and Cleanup SOP for examples of spill cleanup and response materials. The truck driver and the facility representative should both remain with the vehicle during the tank draining process.
- When draining is complete and the hoses are removed, buckets should be placed underneath connection points to catch drippings.
- The facility representative or contractor should inspect the loading point and the tank to verify that no leaks have occurred, or that any leaked or spilled material has been cleaned up and disposed of properly.
- The facility representative or contractor should collect or provide a receipt from the truck driver.
- When draining bulk oil tanks:
 - The facility representative or contractor should verify that the volume of waste oil in the tank does not exceed the available capacity of the disposal hauler's vehicle.
 - The disposal hauler vehicle should be inspected prior to departure to ensure that the hose is disconnected from the tank.

Employee Training

- Employees who may handle or deliver fuel and/or oil or oversee vendors that do so are trained annually on proper procedures.
- Employees are also trained on stormwater pollution prevention, illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE) procedures, and spill and response procedures.
- Many handling services are contracted. The contractor should be given a copy of this and any applicable SOPs to ensure compliance with MS4 regulations

Related Standard Operating Procedures

1. Spill Response and Cleanup

This SOP adapted from Central Massachusetts Regional Stormwater Coalition SOP template.