



Prepare a spill response plan for your place of business that considers the three Cs:

- Cease
- Contain
- Clean-up

## The Law

### The Polluter Pays

The Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) is a law designed to protect our environment. It is illegal for any substance to be discharged into rivers, lakes and streams, or into the stormwater system, or land or air unless authorised by a resource consent or a district or regional plan. Polluters can be fined up to \$1,000, issued abatement notices, or prosecuted and fined up to \$600,000 for breaching the RMA.

**Landowners:** you are responsible for any work on your land. Make sure the contractor you hire knows how to do the job properly.

**Employers:** you are responsible for the actions of your staff. Make sure you train them well and give them the proper tools to do the job correctly.

**Workers:** you are responsible for doing the job in a manner that does not breach the environmental protections put in place by your employer. If you cause pollution, you and/or your company could be held liable for clean-up costs and/or penalties.



**Report all spills immediately to the Pollution Response Hotline on 09 377 3107**

Phone 09 301 0101 or visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)



# Being Prepared for a Spill

## Preventing Pollution in Our Waterways



Phone 09 301 0101 or visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)



## Chemical Storage

Ensure chemicals and hazardous substance are stored appropriately:

- Use labelled containers that are appropriate for the chemical, that are sturdy and not liable to leak
- Store liquids within a bund or other secondary containment that can capture all of the stored substance in the event of a leak
- Cover bunded storage area with a roof to prevent infiltration of rain water



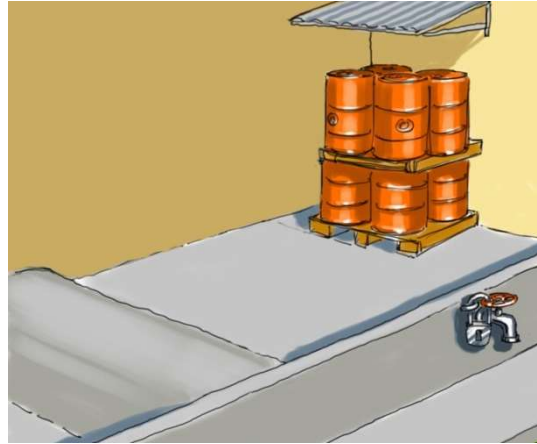
Secondary containment with cover



Keep chemicals away from stormwater drains

## Be Prepared

Being prepared for spills is essential. Without the right equipment and procedures, hazardous chemicals can enter our stormwater system and the natural environment, which may cost you more to remediate.



To become prepared, consider the following:

- Know what products and substances you have on your site and obtain material safety data sheets (MSDSs) for all stored chemicals
- Keep all liquids in a contained and covered area away from stormwater drains
- Keep a copy of your site drainage system on site
- Develop a spill response plan that staff can follow if a spill occurs. This should include a notification list of supervisors, the Pollution Hotline and emergency services
- Ensure all staff are trained in your spill response plan procedures and are aware of spill kit locations
- Spill response plans should focus on procedures to stop the discharge, contain the released material and clean up the spill.

## Spill Response Kits

Be prepared for a spill. Have spill response kits that let you safely contain and clean up any substances you store and use on site.

Tailor your spill kit to your work place, the substances you use and their quantities on site. It should be made up of materials for containment and cleanup as well as safety equipment. Remember, there are many companies who can prepare spill kits tailored to your specific requirements

### Quick Tips

- Store spill kits at designated high-risk areas
- Check your spill kit on a regular basis and restock it after use
- Have a copy of your company's spill response plan and your site's drainage plans in the spill kit
- Provide ongoing spill response training to make sure personnel are familiar with equipment and procedures

