According to Nebraska regulations (Title 126), fuel spills must be reported to DWEE and cleaned up. This brochure provides some basic information that will help you comply when you have a fuel spill due to a transportation accident.

What fuel spills need to be reported?

- A spill larger than 25 gallons to the land surface.
- A spill of any amount that enters surface water.

What is considered fuel?

- Diesel, gasoline, or any petroleum product.

Who is responsible for reporting and cleaning up the spill?

- The owner or operator of the vehicle the fuel spilled from is responsible, in most cases.

What will DWEE do after the initial spill report?

- DWEE will determine if the spill is under control.
- DWEE will determine if additional immediate actions are needed.
- If necessary, DWEE will contact other agencies if additional resources are needed to respond.
- DWEE will provide you a notification number to confirm the spill has been reported.

Why is it important to quickly control a fuel spill?

- Oil and fuel on the road can cause a slick surface that is a traffic hazard.
- Spilled fuel can be a fire hazard.
- Vapors from the spilled fuel can be a health hazard to the public.
- Spilled fuel can cause property damage.
- Spilled fuel can harm surface water and ground water.

What can I do to minimize the harm caused by a fuel spill?

- Call 911. First Responders are often trained to deal with fuel spills.
- Stop the leak. First Responders may also be able to plug or patch the leak.
- Contain the spill. Absorbent material (Oil-Dri or similar) may be used to keep the fuel from spreading.
- Protect drains and surface water. Place material between the spill and a drain or surface water to stop fuel from reaching the drain or surface water.
- Cover the spill. Sand, soil, or absorbent material can be placed over the spill to control vapors.
  - **NOTE! Avoid putting water on a fuel spill as it only further spreads the spill.**
  - If Oil-Dri or other clay-based material is used on a road, sweep it up right away and put it in containers so it doesn't make the road surface slippery.
  - A fire department may cover a gasoline spill with foam to control flammable vapors.
- Contact your insurance carrier to determine if you have pollution and/or spill coverage.
  - Your insurance carrier may send an adjuster or cleanup contractor right away.

What do I do after I have reported the spill?

Clean up the spill. The sooner, the better.

- Hire a cleanup contractor. DWEE does not have requirements for who you hire.
- Contact Nebraska 811 to get a utility locate before digging up contaminated soil.

  1-800-331-5666, or online at **https://www.ne1call.com/**

- Contact Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) for a permit to clean up any spill in a NDOT right of way.

  https://dot.nebraska.gov/businesscenter/permits/row/
  (402) 471-4567

What do I do after the spill has been cleaned up?

Send a written report to DWEE. Title 126 requires a report that includes details about the spill, as well as the cleanup efforts:

- Who performed the cleanup and when was cleanup completed.
- How much soil/rock/other was excavated and where was it disposed.
- A statement that all spilled fuel and contaminated soils were recovered.
- If all fuel/soil could not be recovered, an explanation as to why.
- Photographs of cleanup.
- Landfill tickets following proper disposal of contaminated soil.

Mail the report to:

DWEE-PRS
245 Fallbrook Blvd., Ste.100
Lincoln, NE 68521

What happens if I don't clean up the fuel spill?

- DWEE will send you a "Letter of Noncompliance", which could lead to fines.
- DWEE may hire a contractor to clean up the spill.
  - If DWEE hires a contractor, you can expect to receive a bill for the cost of the cleanup.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

- Call DWEE at (402) 471-2186
- Ask for the Petroleum Remediation Section for questions about spill reporting and cleanup.
- Ask for the Waste Management Section for questions about soil disposal.
- Visit the DWEE Web Page for more fuel spill questions and answers:

  http://dee.ne.gov/NDEQProg.nsf/OnWeb/PSS





Specialized Spill Cleanup Contractors, November 2026

DWEE does not endorse or certify any of the contractors on this list. This list is not all-inclusive. This list is provided as a courtesy to spillers wishing contact information for cleanup contractors who regularly do this type of work (contractor listed in alphabetical order). A full list of environmental contractors is available on the DWEE website.

Central Nebraska HazMat Solutions
(Central and Western NE Only)

Location: Central City, NE
24 hour phone number: 308-940-0333

Environmental Restoration LLC

Location: Omaha, NE
24 hour phone number: 888-814-7477

Environmental Solutions, Inc.

Location: Omaha, NE
24 hour phone number: 402-896-3600

EnviroServe (Western NE Only)

Location: Commerce City, CO
24 hour phone number: 800-488-0910

Haz-Mat Response

Locations: North Platte, NE; Gretna, NE; Windsor, CO; and Great Bend, KS
24 hour phone number: 1-800-229-5252

What To Do When You've Had a Fuel Spill

(Over the Road Vehicle Incidents)

When and how do I report a fuel spill?

- Call DWEE M-F, 8-5 at **402-471-2186**
- Non-office hours, call the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) Dispatch at **402-479-4921**. NSP will contact DWEE, who will call you back.
- DWEE will ask you:
  - When the spill occurred.
  - Location of the spill.
  - Amount spilled.
  - What has been done to contain or recover the spill.
  - Who is responsible for the spill.

NEBRASKA
DEPT. OF WATER, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT