

# FORT SILL QUARTERLY ENVIRONMENTAL NEWSLETTER

Spring 2015



This newsletter provides helpful household and unit tips for protecting the environment and complying with environmental laws and regulations.

## **Spill Prevention, Reporting, and Response**

Fort Sill has over 400,000 gallons of storage capacity for "Oil" as defined by the EPA. This does not include GOVs, POVs, Tactical Vehicles, Oil-Filled Operational Equipment such as electrical transformers, and oily waste in 55 gallon drums. The need to be active in spill prevention and plan for spill contingencies is imperative.

As members of both Fort Sill and our local communities we are all familiar with protecting the environment during everyday

activities both at home and at work, be it military training or an office environment.

Proper spill prevention measures and contingency planning for response actions is critical in reducing and eliminating the release of Hazardous Material and Hazardous Waste into the Environment. Such releases can harm the natural surroundings, impact human health, and become very costly. In fact the cost of most environmental cleanups is far greater than the cost associated with preventing releases, and only gets worse when Federal, State, and Municipal fines or penalties are levied.

Environmental Quality Division (EQD),  
DPW maintains the Fort Sill Spill Prevention,

  
Control, and Countermeasure/Installation Spill Contingency Plan. Units/Organizations receive facility specific copies of the plan that are tailored for their location and operations.

Spill prevention involves the procedural and physical controls we must have in place to prevent releases. Procedural controls include the requirement for spill kits to be placed in areas with spill potential and on military equipment such as HEMTT Fuel Tankers, so that the items needed to contain a spill are readily available.

*Spills Are Preventable!*

## If a Spill Occurs Take Action Immediately to Prevent Damage to the Environment.

Another procedural control is the requirement for inspection of rain water in secondary containment structures prior to release into the environment. The rain water is observed for any sheen or other noticeable contamination which must be documented on the POL Containment Drainage Record. The use of the Weekly Environmental Inspection Log is a procedural control to minimize the possibility of a release.

Physical controls include secondary containment structures such as spill pallets/containers/HAZMAT Buildings to place drums on/in, concrete berms around storage tanks, and concrete berms/drainage basins where fuel tankers park.

Spill contingency actions are initiated when spill prevention fails or there is an accidental release. In all cases, if safe to do so, stop the source of the release and contain the spill. Incidents within unit, organization or



military training locations on Fort Sill involving a spill of any quantity are required to be reported within 72 hours of the event to EQD on the Spill or Incident Report Record. Spills within housing areas should be reported to Corvias residential offices. In the event of an uncontained spill; a spill of any Hazardous substance other than POL; a spill of POL that enters a storm drainage ditch, storm drain, or water body; a spill of POL greater



than 5 gallons; a spill that covers a surface area in excess of 100 square feet; or emergency situation—immediately call 911 and provide details of the release or incident. Finally clean up the release and properly dispose of any waste generated.

Units and organizations can obtain a copy of the Fort Sill Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure/Installation Spill Contingency Plan by contacting EQD at the number below. Fort Sill housing residents can contact the Corvias residential offices for information on spill prevention and reporting within neighborhood areas.

**For further information about compliance with environmental laws / regulations please contact Environmental Quality Division, DPW, 580-442-3266.**

*Contain Spill, Report Spill, Cleanup Spill*