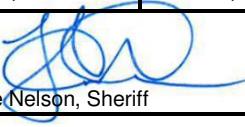




# DESCHUTES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Policy Title: <b>Hazardous Materials and Contaminant Spills</b>	Effective Date: January 6, 2023	Policy Number: <b>5.23</b>
Accreditation Reference: 2.1.4, 2.3.2	Review Date: January 6, 2026	Supersedes: June 28, 2016
Attachments:	 L. Shane Nelson, Sheriff	

## I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish a procedure to ensure effective, coordinated management of accidental spills and/or fires involving hazardous materials in use, in storage, or during transportation which may occur in or directly affect the County.

## II. POLICY

Because of the inherent dangers posed to both public safety personnel and the citizenry as a result of hazardous material spills or contamination, it is the policy of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office to train all of its members in the proper response to such situations and to provide clear guidelines on the actions to be taken.

## III. DEFINITIONS

*Hazardous Materials* means any element, compound, mixture, solution, or substance which, when spilled or released into the air or into or on any land or waters of the State, may present a substantial danger to the public health, safety, welfare, or the environment.

Hazardous materials include:

1. Most industrial chemicals;
2. Explosives or incendiary materials which are manufactured lawfully as an explosive (such as gunpowder, dynamite, nitroglycerine, etc.), or materials assembled so as to create an explosive or incendiary material or device, or military ordinance;
3. Herbicides, pesticides, defoliants, fungicides;
4. Gasoline, crude oil, fuel oil, diesel oil, lubricating oils, sludge, oil refuse or any other petroleum related product;
5. Radioactive materials; and
6. Communicable disease agents.
7. Additionally, all unknown substances should be treated as hazardous materials.

## **IV. PROCEDURES**

### **A. Notification of Incident**

Upon receiving notification of an incident involving hazardous chemicals, or of an actual or possible hazardous material accident or spill within the County, the member receiving the complaint will attempt to solicit the following basic information:

1. Identity of the material involved
2. Extent of spill or accident (amount of material involved and/or area affected)
3. Wind direction
4. Exact location

### **B. Dispatching**

Fire and law enforcement units will be dispatched to the scene and the appropriate public works department will be notified.

1. 9-1-1 Dispatch will advise all responders that it is an actual or possible hazardous material incident.
2. 9-1-1 Dispatch will provide the responders with all available information.

### **C. Shift Supervisor**

The shift supervisor will also be dispatched to the area to assume command until arrival of the Fire Department. If appropriate, the shift supervisor will activate the Incident Command System. See [Policy 5.20, Incident Command System](#).

### **D. Incident Commander and On-Scene Coordinator**

The Fire Department will provide an Incident Commander to assume command of the incident and the on-scene command post. The Sheriff's Office will provide an on-scene coordinator or Unified Incident Commander, if appropriate, to work with the Incident Commander.

### **E. Initial Responders**

1. Approach from upwind and uphill.
2. Observe from a safe distance; use binoculars if necessary.
3. Examine shipping papers of I.D. numbers if available.
4. Examine placards and labels.
5. Interview the driver, conductor, or any other person who might be knowledgeable about the material involved.
6. Refer to the Department of Transportation Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG). This is also available as a smart phone application.

### **F. Upon Arrival**

- Isolate Area.
- Avoid contact with materials, fumes, smoke or dust.
- Eliminate or avoid ignition sources (no smoking or use of highway flares).
- Determine if larger evacuation is necessary to keep people away from chemicals or fumes.
- Establish control lines at safe distances.

### **G. Primary Sheriff's Office Responsibilities**

- Notification (Communications); ensure Oregon Emergency Response System (OERS) is notified.
- Initial situation evaluation and substance identification

- Evacuation (implementation)
- Site security (access)
- Crowd control
- Traffic control
- Road closures (implementation)
- On-scene coordinator

#### **H. Sheriff's Office Support Roles**

- Search and Rescue
- First Aid
- Hazard evaluation
- Evacuation (decision)
- Shelter (sources)
- Spill containment
- Road closure (decision)
- Public information
- Enforcement

#### **I. Explosive or Incendiary Material**

If the material involved is believed to be explosive or incendiary, a member of the State Police Hazardous Devices Team will be dispatched.

#### **J. Report**

A report will be completed as an "Agency Assist".

## **V. SAFETY DATA SHEETS (SDS)**

If available on scene, consult SDS sheets.