



# Hurricane Recovery And Oil Spills

If your heating oil tank is leaking or leaked oil as a result of a recent hurricane, the following information will assist you in dealing with the spilled oil:

1. **STOP THE LEAK** - if your tank is still leaking, you need to stop the leak immediately. Here are some possible solutions:
  - Close the shut off valve which is usually located where the small supply line (typically copper) attaches to the tank,
  - If your shut off valve is damaged or does not shut off the flow of oil and you have a copper supply line, crimp or bend the line,
  - Call your heating oil supplier to have them pump the remaining oil out of the tank.
  - Don't smoke or use ignition sources around spilled fuel, and report any spilled gasoline or other flammable liquids to your local Fire Department.

If you can't stop the leak immediately, put a bucket or other container, sand or kitty litter under the leak to catch the oil and keep it from reaching the ground.

2. **CONTACT THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY** - You must report an oil spill to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Spill reporting is required by law, and it is also required to be eligible for reimbursement of costs to clean up the spill. Contact numbers for the DEQ regional offices are on the back of this flyer.
3. **CLEAN UP THE SPILLED OIL** - Cleanup of an oil spill is required under Virginia law; therefore, you will need to hire a contractor to assess the extent of contamination and clean up any soil or water contaminated by the oil. If needed, the DEQ regional offices can provide you with a list of contractors when you contact them to report your spill.
4. **GET REIMBURSED FOR OIL SPILL CLEANUP COSTS** - Eligible costs for cleanup of an oil spill can be reimbursed from the Virginia Petroleum Storage Tank Fund (Fund); however, it is important to note several key considerations:
  - If you have insurance coverage for the oil spill, there is no access to the Fund,
  - eligible costs must be pre-approved by a DEQ regional office,
  - homeowners are responsible for the first \$500 of eligible cleanup costs,
  - the Fund does not reimburse for: lost oil, damaged storage tanks, disposal of a damaged tank, a replacement tank or oil, damage to personal property (contact your insurance company), cleanup costs performed 24 hours prior to reporting the spill to the DEQ, or landscaping. The Fund may reimburse for emptying the leaking tank, disposing of heavily contaminated soil or water, and preparing a report for DEQ.

For details of the reimbursement rules and procedures, visit the following link or contact your DEQ regional office petroleum program personnel.

[http://www.deq.virginia.gov/export/sites/default/tanks/pdf/007\\_v4\\_final.pdf](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/export/sites/default/tanks/pdf/007_v4_final.pdf)

**Valley Regional Office**  
4411 Early Road, Harrisonburg, Va. 22801  
(540) 574-7800

The **Valley Regional Office** serves: counties of Albemarle, Augusta, Bath, Clarke, Fluvanna, Frederick, Greene, Highland, Nelson, Page, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Warren; cities of Buena Vista, Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, Lexington, Staunton, Waynesboro, Winchester.

**Northern Virginia  
Regional Office**  
13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, Va. 22193  
(703) 583-3800

The **Northern Virginia Regional Office** serves: counties of Arlington, Caroline, Culpeper, Fairfax, Fauquier, King George, Loudoun, Louisa, Madison, Orange, Prince William, Rappahannock, Spotsylvania, Stafford; cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas, Manassas Park.

**Piedmont Regional Office**  
4949-A Cox Road, Glen Allen, Virginia 23060  
(804) 527-5020

The **Piedmont Regional Office** serves: counties of Amelia, Brunswick, Charles City, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Essex, Gloucester, Goochland, Greensville, Hanover, Henrico, King and Queen, King William, Lancaster, Mathews, Middlesex, New Kent, Northumberland, Powhatan, Prince George, Richmond, Surry, Sussex, Westmoreland; cities of Colonial Heights, Emporia, Hopewell, Petersburg, Richmond.

**Tidewater Regional Office**  
5636 Southern Blvd., Virginia Beach, Va. 23462  
(757) 518-2000

The **Tidewater Regional Office** serves: counties of Accomack, Isle of Wight, James City, Northampton, Southampton, York; cities of Chesapeake, Franklin, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, Williamsburg.

**Southwest Regional Office**  
355 Deadmore St., Abingdon, Va. 24212  
(276) 676-4800

The **Southwest Regional Office** serves: counties of Bland, Buchanan, Carroll, Dickenson, Grayson, Lee, Russell, Scott, Smyth, Tazewell, Washington, Wise, Wythe; cities of Bristol, Galax, Norton.

**Blue Ridge Regional Office - Roanoke**  
3019 Peters Creek Road, Roanoke, Va. 24019  
(540) 562-6700

The **Blue Ridge Regional Office in Roanoke** serves: counties of Alleghany, Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Giles, Henry, Montgomery, Patrick, Pulaski, Roanoke; cities of Bedford, Clifton Forge, Covington, Martinsville, Radford, Roanoke, Salem.

**Blue Ridge Regional Office - Lynchburg**  
7705 Timberlake Road, Lynchburg, Va. 24502  
(434) 582-5120

The **Blue Ridge Regional Office in Lynchburg** serves: counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte, Cumberland, Halifax, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Nottoway, Pittsylvania, Prince Edward; cities of Danville, Lynchburg.