



## OFF-HIGHWAY EMERGENCY REMOVAL PROGRAM

### WHAT IS THE OFF-HIGHWAY EMERGENCY REMOVAL PROGRAM?

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) offers assistance to local government agencies to mitigate emergency hazardous materials (Hazmat) situations.

EMERGENCY is defined as a Hazmat situation involving a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance where there is a threat to public health and/or the environment.

The Off-Highway Emergency Removal Program (Program) can provide the following types of assistance:

- "Removal Actions" for spills and/or "midnight dumping" with unknown responsible parties including the removal and disposal of bulk chemicals, hazardous waste, residues, grossly contaminated materials, and limited soil removal where contaminated soil poses a direct contact threat
- Supplement the response capabilities of local agencies in disasters (floods, earthquakes, etc) or in large emergency hazmat incidents
- Hazard assessment assistance to communities without hazmat emergency response capability

### FUNDING FOR OFF-HIGHWAY REMOVAL PROGRAM

Section 25354, Chapter 6.8 of the California Health and Safety Code established an Emergency Reserve Account in the General Fund which provides funds for taking

immediate corrective action necessary to remedy or prevent an emergency resulting from fire, an explosion of, or human exposure to, hazardous substances caused by the release or threatened release of a hazardous substance.

### FUNDING CRITERIA

Materials to be removed must exhibit at least one of the following hazardous characteristics:

- Flammability (by watch glass test)
- Corrosivity ( $\text{pH} \leq 2$  or  $\geq 12.5$ )
- Reactivity to air or water
- Toxicity

### REQUIRED INFORMATION

- Name, agency, phone number, etc. of requestor
- Address or location, and description of incident
- Name and address of any potential responsible parties
- Inventory of hazardous substances including approximate quantity, chemical name or type (hazard class), number and size and condition of containers, approximate quantity or surface area of any contaminated soil

### REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

- Off-Highway Emergency Removal Incident Report \*
- Off-Highway Emergency Removal Work Log\*
- Copy of Hazardous Waste manifest

\*Copies of these forms are available by calling (916) 255-6504 or (800) 260-3972.

### DTSC EMERGENCY RESPONSE DUTY OFFICER

- Receives requests for assistance
- Determines if request meets funding criteria
- Establishes contractor scope of work
- Obtains cost estimate and estimated time of arrival for DTSC contractor
- Issues Emergency Response Expenditure Report (ERER) number
- Is the only person that has authority to dispatch and/or direct work of DTSC contractors

### DTSC CONTRACTORS

- Are not first responders.
- Provide removal and disposal
- Are dispatched only by the DTSC duty officer. If you dispatch...you pay!

### IMPORTANT FACTS

- This is not a reimbursement program.
- DTSC Emergency Response Duty Officers are available 24 hours/day, seven days/week.
- The requesting agency must remain on-scene and oversee the contractor's activities until the contractor's work is completed.

### DTSC WILL NOT FUND THE FOLLOWING:

- Waste oil, petroleum fuels, fuel spills from vehicular accidents, latex paint, infectious waste, radioactive waste, non-hazardous items, incidents on state highways or right-of-way (CALTRANS handles those)

## TO REQUEST DTSC ASSISTANCE:

- During normal business hours 8 AM to 5 PM, contact the DTSC Emergency Response Duty Officer at (916) 255-6504 or toll free at (800) 260-3972.
- After hours, weekends, and holidays, contact the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) State Warning Control Center toll free at (800) 852-7550.
- Request Cal EMA to contact the DTSC Emergency Response Duty Officer.
- The Emergency Response Duty Officer (available 24 hrs/day) will then contact the requesting agency.
- If you have any questions regarding the Program, please contact the DTSC Emergency Response Program at (916) 255-6504 or toll free at (800) 260-3972, or visit our website at [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov).



Department of Toxic Substances Control  
Emergency Response Program  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95826



California Department of  
Toxic Substances Control

DTSC  
OFF-HIGHWAY  
EMERGENCY  
REMOVAL  
PROGRAM

---

California  
Environmental  
Protection Agency