



Purpose

Oil spills endanger public health, impact drinking water, devastate natural resources, and disrupt the economy.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) rule helps facilities prevent a discharge of oil into navigable waters or adjoining shorelines.

The nearest waterway to the University of Chicago is Lake Michigan. Oils can potentially enter Lake Michigan via the storm water and sewer system.

Applicability

Facilities with total above-ground storage capacity greater than 1,320 gallons or total underground storage of 42,000 gallons.

The University of Chicago and University of Chicago Medicine exceed both.

Examples of oils located at the University of Chicago and University of Chicago Medicine covered by the SPCC Rule include:

- ◆ Diesel
- ◆ Lubricating and coolant oils
- ◆ Metal-working fluids
- ◆ Cooking oils and greases
- ◆ Elevator hydraulic oils

Oil-containing tanks or equipment with capacities greater than 55 gallons. Examples at the University of Chicago and University of Chicago Medicine include:

- ◆ Diesel storage tanks
- ◆ Generator fuel tanks
- ◆ Elevator hydraulic oil reservoirs
- ◆ Transformers
- ◆ Kitchen grease traps
- ◆ Drums
- ◆ Temporary tanks or containers brought onsite by contractors during project work

General Requirements

SPCC Plan	The University of Chicago's operating procedures for: Preventing oil spills; Control measures to prevent oil spills from entering navigable waters; and Countermeasures to contain, cleanup, and mitigate the effects of oil spills
Secondary Containment	Structures built around tanks to contain spills or releases and are capable of containing the full capacity of the tank plus possible rainfall. Examples include: ◆ Dikes ◆ Impoundments, or ◆ Double-walled tanks
Inspections	Visual inspections to identify leaks or damage (performed monthly)
Integrity Testing	Integrity testing of construction material of permanent tanks (performed every 5-10 years)
Training	Instructing affected employees on the implementation of the University of Chicago's SPCC Plan.

Spill Response

Immediately	Contain the Spill	Stop Source of Spill or Leak
Report spill to UCPD	Prevent oil from entering sewer or storm drains Spill response equipment, or "spill kits", are located in the vicinity of oil-containing tanks and equipment	Only do trained and safe to do so
Spills which reach storm or sewer drains may need to be immediately reported to the EPA, Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD). These reports will be performed by EHS.		