According to Nebraska regulations (Title 126), fuel spills must be reported to NDEQ and cleaned up. This brochure provides some basic information that will help you comply when you have a fuel spill due to a transportation accident.

What fuel spills need to be reported?
- A spill larger than 25 gallons to the land surface.
- A spill of any amount that enters surface water.

What is considered fuel?
- Diesel, gasoline, or any petroleum product.

Who is responsible for reporting and cleaning up the spill?
- The owner or operator of the vehicle the fuel spilled from is responsible, in most cases.

What will NDEQ do after the initial spill report?
- NDEQ will determine if the spill is under control.
- NDEQ will determine if additional immediate actions are needed.
- If necessary, NDEQ will contact other agencies if additional resources are needed to respond.
- NDEQ will provide you a notification number to confirm the spill has been reported.

Why is it important to quickly control a fuel spill?
- Oil and fuel on the road can cause a slick surface that is a traffic hazard.
- Spilled fuel can be a fire hazard.
- Vapors from the spilled fuel can be a health hazard to the public.
- Spilled fuel can cause property damage.
- Spilled fuel can harm surface water and ground water.

What can I do to minimize the harm caused by a fuel spill?
- Call 911. First Responders are often trained to deal with fuel spills.
- Stop the leak. First Responders may also be able to plug or patch the leak.
- Contain the spill. Absorbent material (Hi-Dri or similar) may be used to keep the fuel from spreading.
- Protect drains and surface water. Place material between the spill and a drain or surface water to stop fuel from reaching the drain or surface water.
- Cover the spill. Sand, soil, or absorbent material can be placed over the spill to control vapors.
  - NOTE! Avoid putting water on a fuel spill as it only further spreads the spill.
  - If Hi-Dri or other clay-based material is used on a road, sweep it up right away and put it in containers so it doesn’t make the road surface slippery.
- A fire department may cover a gasoline spill with foam to control flammable vapors.
- Contact your insurance carrier to determine if you have pollution and/or spill coverage.
  - Your insurance carrier may send an adjuster or cleanup contractor right away.

What do I do after I have reported the spill?
- Clean up the spill. The sooner, the better.
  - Hire a cleanup contractor. NDEQ does not have requirements for who you hire.
  - Contact Nebraska 811 to get a utility locate before digging up contaminated soil. 1-800-331-5666, or online at [https://www.ne1call.com/](https://www.ne1call.com/)
  - Contact Nebraska DOT for a permit to clean any spill in a NDOT right of way. [https://dot.nebraska.gov/business-center/permits/row/](https://dot.nebraska.gov/business-center/permits/row/)
    - (402) 471-4567

What do I do after the spill has been cleaned up?
- Send a written report to NDEQ. Title 126 requires a report that includes details about the spill, as well as the cleanup efforts.
  - Who performed the cleanup and when was cleanup complete.
  - How much soil/rock/other was excavated and where was it disposed.
  - A statement that all spilled fuel and contaminated soils were recovered.
  - If all fuel/soil could not be recovered, an explanation as to why.
  - A drawing depicting the spill area and photographs (not required, but helpful)

Mail the report to:
NDEQ-PRS
P.O. Box 98922
Lincoln, NE 68509-8922
What happens if I don’t clean up the fuel spill?
- NDEQ will send you a “Notice of Violation” letter, which could lead to fines.
- NDEQ may hire a contractor to clean up the spill.
  o If NDEQ hires a contractor, you can expect to receive a bill for the cost of the cleanup

Who do I contact if I have questions?
- Call NDEQ at (402) 471-2186
- Ask for the Petroleum Remediation Section for questions about spill reporting and cleanup
- Ask for the Waste Management Section for questions about soil disposal
- Visit the NDEQ Web Page for more fuel spill questions and answers:
  http://deq.ne.gov/NDEQProg.nsf/OnWeb/PSS

Specialized Spill Cleanup Contractors, March 2019
NDEQ does not endorse or certify any of the contractors on this list. This list is not all-inclusive. This list is provided as a courtesy to spillers wishing contact information for cleanup contractors who regularly do this type of work (contractors listed in alphabetical order). A full list of environmental contractors is available on the NDEQ website.

Environmental Restoration LLC
Location: Omaha, NE
24 hour phone number: 888-814-7477
www.erinlc.com

Environmental Solutions, Inc.
Location: Omaha, NE
24 hour phone number: 402-896-3600
www.esilink.com

Haz-Mat Response
Locations: North Platte, NE; Gretna, NE; Windsor, CO; and Great Bend, KS
24 hour phone number: 1-800-229-5252
www.haz-matresponse.com

When and how do I report a fuel spill?
- Call NDEQ, M-F, 8-5 at 402-471-2186
- Non-office hours, call the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) Dispatch at 402-479-4921. NSP will contact NDEQ, who will call you back
- NDEQ will ask you:
  when the spill occurred,
  location of the spill,
  amount spilled,
  what has been done to contain or recover the spill, and
  who is responsible for the spill.