

Facility Adoption of Maintenance Operations BMP's

Storage and handling of plant protectant products, fertilizers and petroleum products, especially in their concentrated form, pose the highest potential risk to water sources if accidentally released in quantity. At Val Halla, we are ready to treat all leaks and spills as emergencies and take precautionary measures to ensure this doesn't happen to begin with.

We worked with Integrated Environmental Engineers to establish a Spill Prevention Control & Countermeasures Plan (SPCC Plan) as well as the development of Stormwater Operations & Management Procedures. These documents are reviewed with IEE on an annual basis and updated as necessary. As part of the SPCC Plan, any and all spills are recorded and monthly inspections are performed on all fuel tanks and secondary spill containment infrastructure and these inspections are documented.

All fuel canisters and drums containing petroleum products are stored on secondary spill containers. These containers are capable of holding the total amount of product stored on them in the event the original container has a leak. Our fuel tanks are double-walled tanks and have leak detectors in place. In the event a fuel tank leaks, the second wall would hold the fuel while setting off the leak detector. This allows us to address the leak without any product ever reaching the ground. The fuel island and storage shed is built on a concrete slab to further prevent the chance of petroleum products reaching the ground. The floor drains in both maintenance bays have also been filled with concrete. This ensures that in the event of a spill that isn't contained, or one that arises while working on a piece of equipment, that no product is capable of exiting the building and reaching the ground. Oil and petroleum spill kits are also in place at the fuel island and in the maintenance bays.



All plant protectant products are stored in a designated, locked storage room. The room is constructed of concrete floors and knee walls to contain any liquid in the event of a spill. All liquid products are stored below dry products so that in the event of a leak, additional products are not introduced into the equation. The storage room also has built in exhaust, allowing authorized personnel to "vent" the room prior to entering in the event a leak occurred and allowed toxic fumes to accumulate.



A dedicated bay was constructed solely for the mixing of products and filling of spray equipment. This dedicated bay is constructed with a concrete floor and knee walls. The floor pitches to the center and in the event of a spill, the entire bay is capable of holding a liquid capacity greater than the total holding capacity of the sprayer. A center floor drain can be opened and allow for spilled liquids to exit the bay into a secondary container. These liquids can then be put back into the sprayer rather than being wasted. Backflow prevention devices are also in place on water fill lines and the sprayer is equipped with an air-gap fill system.



Val Halla keeps SDS on site for all products and ensures that they are available to employees, patrons and emergency personnel in the event of an exposure or spill. Staff that applies plant protectant products are trained in proper storage, use and handling of products, as well as being licensed Commercial Master Applicators by the Maine Board of Pesticides Control. Necessary PPE (Tyvek suits, respirators, nitrile gloves, etc.) is always available as well as additional safety products such as fire extinguishers, emergency eye wash stations, portable eye wash bottles, showering facilities, spill kits, etc.



All equipment is blown off with compressed air prior to washing to reduce grass clippings in the wash bay. All equipment is then rinsed in a dedicated, covered wash bay. Solvents are never used when washing equipment. If cleaner is needed, only biodegradable, environmentally friendly soap is used. Water is collected and dispersed into a native vegetation area that acts as buffer, absorbing and utilizing any residual nutrients prior to surface water reaching any drain or the water table. Soaps and cleaners are also never used at the clubhouse for the washing of golf carts, ensuring only clean water reaches storm drains.



