How to Report Spills

California law requires that anyone who spills a substance that could endanger humans or wildlife in or near California waters must report. Anyone who witnesses a spill is encouraged to report it as well. Report spills as quickly as possible, since rapid response helps to lessen the damage.

Report spills that occur anywhere in California by calling these State and federal phone numbers that are available 24 hours a day:

- U.S. Coast Guard National Response Center: 800-424-8802
- California Office of Emergency Services: 800-852-7550
- West Coast Oil Spill Hotline: 1-800-OILS-911
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s CalTIP line: 888-DFG-CALTip (888-334-2258)

Be prepared to provide the following basic information:

- Name and telephone number of caller
- Location of the spill
- Substance spilled such as oil, gas, diesel, etc.
- Estimated size of the spill
- Water way or storm drain impacted
- Date & time of the spill
- If oiled or threatened wildlife are present
- Information or thoughts on who spilled the material
- Any suspicious activity observed at the spill site