

## For More Information

### State Agencies

#### Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Chemical Safety  
P.O. Box 19276  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
Springfield, IL 62794

[www.epa.state.il.us](http://www.epa.state.il.us)  
(217)785-0830  
To report spills:  
(217)782-7860

#### Illinois Pollution Control Board

100 West Randolph Street  
Suite 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601  
(312)814-3620

[www.ipcb.state.il.us](http://www.ipcb.state.il.us)  
600 South 2nd Street  
Suite 402  
Springfield, IL 62704  
(217)524-8500

#### Indiana Department of Environmental Management

100 North Senate  
P.O. Box 6015  
Indianapolis, IN 46206

[www.ai.org/idem](http://www.ai.org/idem)  
(317)232-8603 or  
(800)451-6027

#### Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

P.O. Box 30457  
Lansing, MI 48909

[www.deq.state.mi.us](http://www.deq.state.mi.us)  
Environmental  
Assistance Center:  
(800)662-9278

#### Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

520 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155

[www.pca.state.mn.us](http://www.pca.state.mn.us)  
(612)296-6300 or  
(800)657-3864

#### New York Department of Environmental Conservation

50 Wolf Road  
Albany, NY 12233

[www.dec.state.ny.us](http://www.dec.state.ny.us)  
Office of Pollution  
Prevention:  
(518)457-4351

#### Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Pollution Prevention  
P.O. Box 1049  
Columbus, OH 43216

[www.epa.state.us](http://www.epa.state.us)  
(614)644-3469

#### Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

400 Market Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

[www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us)  
(717)787-2814  
Office of Pollution  
Prevention:  
(717)783-0540

#### Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

101 South Webster Street  
Madison, WI 53707

[www.dnr.state.wi.us](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us)  
(608)266-2621



### Private Sector

#### American Petroleum Institute

1220 L Street, Northwest  
Washington, D.C. 20005

[www.api.org](http://www.api.org)  
(202)682-8000

#### Independent Petroleum Association of America

1101 16th Street, Northwest  
Washington, D.C. 20036

[www.ipaa.org](http://www.ipaa.org)  
(202)857-4722

#### Environmental Resource Center

101 Center Point Drive  
Cary, NC 27513

[www.ercweb.com](http://www.ercweb.com)  
(919)469-1585

#### National Petroleum Council

1625 K Street, Northwest  
Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20006

[www.npc.org](http://www.npc.org)  
(202)393-6100

#### National Petroleum Refiners Association

1899 L Street, Northwest  
Suite 1000  
Washington, D.C. 20036

[www.npradc.org](http://www.npradc.org)  
(202)457-0480

### Visit GLSPI Online

[www.glc.org/projects/glspi/](http://www.glc.org/projects/glspi/)

#### GLSPI staff support provided by

#### Great Lakes Commission

Argus II Building  
400 Fourth Street  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

[www.glc.org](http://www.glc.org)  
(734)665-9135

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# Great Lakes Spill Protection Initiative A Resource Guide



*Petroleum companies  
and federal and state  
agencies working  
together to protect  
the Great Lakes*

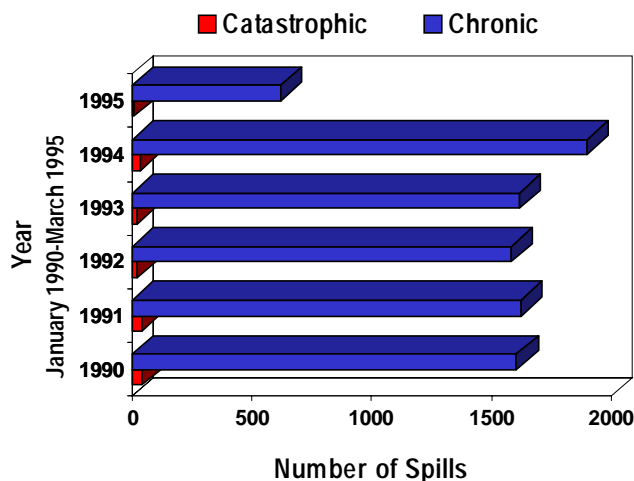
*Funded by the Great Lakes Protection Fund*

# Oil Spills in the Great Lakes Region

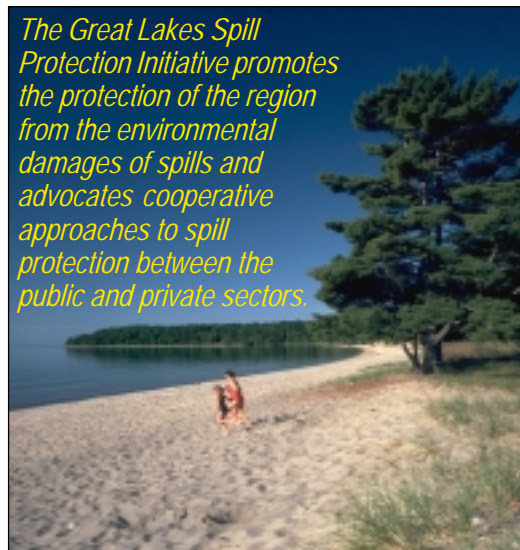
The Great Lakes, the world's greatest freshwater system supporting many diverse ecosystems, have multiple uses such as recreation, drinking water and transportation. The Great Lakes region supports major population and manufacturing centers, which demand billions of gallons of petroleum products each year. Spills, when they occur, can threaten plant and animal populations, degrade water quality and harm some industrial and manufacturing processes.

Spills can be divided into two categories: *chronic* and *catastrophic*. Chronic spills are smaller volume spills that are less than 10,000 gallons and often come from diffuse sources. Catastrophic events, such as the Exxon Valdez spill, are greater in volume with impacts often immediately visible. Although perceived as less problematic, chronic spills occur with much greater frequency and can have a substantial cumulative impact on the environment.

Number of Catastrophic Spills vs. Chronic Spills in the Great Lakes Region<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Data From the Emergency Response Notification System With Analysis from the Great Lakes Commission



## The GLSPI

The Great Lakes Spill Protection Initiative (GLSPI) is a unique public/private sector partnership consisting of representatives from petroleum companies and federal and state regulatory agencies, with staff support provided by the Great Lakes Commission. The GLSPI recognizes the need for protecting the environment and promotes education and preventative measures to reduce the probability of oil spills occurring on the Great Lakes or in the Great Lakes region.

The GLSPI understands that the chronic spills problem is a shared responsibility that can only be solved through the cooperation and commitment of the public and private sectors, as well as the general public. Chronic spills can be prevented by making companies that handle petroleum products aware of current legislation, regulatory programs and information resources available to them from government as well as non-governmental agencies and by making users of petroleum products aware of the proper storage, use and disposal of these products.

## Spill Prevention Regulation

There is no doubt that oil plays an extremely important role in the regional economy of the Great Lakes. As oil is refined, stored and transported, small accidents will occasionally occur that can be detrimental to the environment.

The Clean Water Act (CWA), as amended by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, was passed to help prevent and minimize spills and their effects. It impacts both the public and private sectors. The CWA requires that SPCC (Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure) regulated facilities\* prepare and implement an SPCC Plan to prevent any discharge of oil into navigable waters. Although each SPCC Plan is unique to the facility, there are certain key elements that should be included to comply with regulations. Three areas that should be addressed in the plan include

- 1) **Operating procedures implemented by the facility to prevent oils spills**
- 2) **Control measures installed to prevent spills from entering waterways**
- 3) **Countermeasures to contain, clean up and mitigate the effects of an oil spill**

The need for a plan depends on the storage capacity of the facility and its location. For a sample packet and more information about the need for or content of an SPCC plan, contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at

**U.S. EPA Region 5 - Oil Section**  
**77 West Jackson Blvd. (SE-5J)**  
**Chicago, IL 60604**

**In case of an emergency spill incident, please contact the National Response Center**  
**(800) 424-8802**

\*There are three criteria a facility must meet to be regulated by the SPCC regulations: 1) the facility must be non-transportation-related; 2) the facility must have an aboveground storage capacity greater than 660 gallons in a single container or an aggregate storage capacity greater than 1,320 gallons or a total underground storage capacity greater than 42,000 gallons; and 3) there must be a reasonable expectation of a discharge to navigable waters or adjoining shorelines of the United States.