

B. If sewage does reach the waters of the state then reporting to the EPD is required, along with public notification. The required actions are listed in the Georgia Rules for Water Quality Control; section 391-3-6-.05 Emergency Actions.

1. In the event of a spill: (less than 10,000 gallons released to waters of the state and no water quality violation)

a. The City must notify the EPD immediately by telephone or by FAX. Reporting by FAX is preferred because the person who needs to receive the report may not be available by telephone at the time of the report. FAX reporting is allowed by the EPD and will provide documentation that the report was made and when it was made. The initial report is normally made by the Environmental Manager, but may be done by any supervisor. A template to use for initial reporting is included with this document. The initial report must include:

1. Date of the spill;
2. Location and cause of spill;
3. Estimated volume discharged and name of receiving waters;
4. Corrective action taken to mitigate or reduce the adverse effects of the spill.

b. The City must report the spill to the local media within 24 hours of becoming aware of the spill. The media report must include the same items;

1. Date of the spill;
2. Location and cause of spill;
3. Estimated volume discharged and name of receiving waters;
4. Corrective action taken to mitigate or reduce the adverse effects of the spill.

c. All reports to the local media must be approved by the Utilities Director, who will forward the report to the Public Information Officer. Only the Public Information Office will release news reports to the media.

d. The City must report the same items to the Lowndes County Health Department, Environmental Division by telephone. This report is normally done by the Environmental Manager, but may be done by any supervisor or by the Environmental Technician. The contact number for Lowndes County Environmental Services is 245-2314.

e. The City must post notices at the point where sewage entered waters of the state and at public access points downstream. The Environmental Manager has signs for this purpose and will attach copies of the media notice to the signs giving specifics of the spill. The Environmental Manager's staff will be responsible for the placement of the notices.