Metadata for: Environmental Occurrences & Spills

This table provides essential information about the program data.

Environmental Occurrences & Spills
n/a
 This dataset consists of information from reports received by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change Spills Action Centre (SAC). They are generated and completed by SAC following the initial report of a spill. The data includes: the date the spill was reported to the ministry the time the spill was reported to the ministry the reference number assigned to the spill the municipality in which the spill occurred* what was impacted (e.g. land, water, air, or combination) the substance being discharged (e.g. sediment, diesel fuel, etc.) whether the environmental impact is between zero (no impact) and 4 (medium impact with mortality) whether the health impact is between zero (no impact) and 3 (major health impact) the source and sector of the spill and, the incident event and reason for the spill The data reflects the information as reflected in the final report, following conclusion of the incident. Some fields may have been left blank or listed as "Unknown / N/A" due to a change in databases, resulting in some fields being split into two or new fields being added. *The ministry only provides the municipality of the spill due to the fact that the information provided to SAC can be vague or inaccurate. The location does not include proper coordinates (latitude, longitude or UTM) nor is the location information (such as address or other spatial information) validated. Providing only the municipality in the open data rather than more specific location minimizes the potential risk of releasing data that mistakenly places a spill location on private property.
Ongoing
Yearly
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Keywords	spills, pollutants
Tags	pollution, environmental events
Use Limitations	n/a
Legal Constraints	See the <u>Open Government Licence - Ontario</u>
Geographic Bounds	Ontario: province-wide West bound: -95.15699 East bound: -74.30798 South bound: 41.6723 North bound: 56.850117
	Spill: when used with reference to a pollutant, means a discharge, (a) into the natural environment, (b) from or out of a structure, vehicle or other container, and (c) that is abnormal in quality or quantity in light of all the circumstances of the discharge, and when used as a verb has a corresponding meaning; ("déversement", "déverser")
	Pollutant: means a contaminant other than heat, sound, vibration or radiation, and includes any substance from which a pollutant is derived; ("polluant")
	Date Reported: the date the incident was reported to the Ministry
	Time Reported: the time the incident was reported to the Ministry
	Contaminant Name: the name of the substance being discharged into the environment.
	Receiving Media: The medium to which the pollution impacts: i.e. land, air, water (or combination thereof).
	Environmental Impact: -Environmental Impact Not Anticipated (e.g. small spill to concrete) -Environmental Impact Possible but Not Confirmed (e.g. spill to catch basin) -Environmental Impact Confirmed (e.g. confirmed by the ministry or another agency)
Supplemental Information	 Health/Environmental Consequence: 0 - No impact (i.e. no adverse impacts) 1 - Administrative (i.e. the incident may be reportable under various pieces of legislation or regulation but does not pose a threat or have adverse effects) 2 - Minor Environment (i.e. incident may have adverse impacts to environment that are non-threatening, e.g. a minor spill, with no sensitive or health receptors) 3 - Minor Health (i.e. incident may have adverse impacts to environment and human health, e.g. a bypass impacting a water treatment plant) 4 - Medium Environment (i.e. incident has adverse impacts to the environment and local ecosystem, e.g. a watershed spill impacting sensitive receptors) 5 - Major Environment (i.e. incident has widespread adverse impacts to various ecological and environmental receptors, e.g. train derailment impacting a watershed)
	6 - Medium Health / Major Health (i.e. incident poses human health risk and poses adverse impacts to water quality, e.g. spill impacting water supply)
	 Health Impact: 0 - No impact (i.e. no adverse impacts) 1 - Minor Health Impact (i.e. incident may have adverse impacts to health) 2 - Medium Health Impact (i.e. incident has adverse impacts to health) 3 - Major Health Impact (i.e. incident poses high human health risk)
	Source: From what the pollutant is derived (e.g. Motor Vehicle)
	Sector: The industry grouping associated with the source. Became aligned with

	the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in 2021
	Source/Sector: "Other" includes all other sources not more specifically identified.
	Incident Event: describes the type of incident (e.g. collision/accident)
	Incident Reason: describes the cause that contributed to the incident event (e.g. equipment failure)
Date Stamp	November 22, 2022

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