



CITY OF COLONIAL HEIGHTS

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I-95 TRUCK ACCIDENT ENVIROMENTAL IMPACT

Colonial Heights Fire, EMS and Emergency Management responded early Thursday morning, July 24, at approximately 6:00 a.m. for an overturned tanker truck on Interstate 95 southbound just south of Exit 58. The truck was carrying approximately 7500 gallons of gasoline and 1000 gallons of diesel fuel. During the past several hours, crews have been working to clean up the leaked fuel on the interstate. At this time, approximately 7700 gallons of fuel has escaped from the tanker truck and approximately 2500 gallons has been recovered by the clean-up crews leaving an estimated 6000 gallons that was spilled into the storm drains that lead to Swift Creek east of Interstate 95.

Currently, as crews continue clean-up procedures, there are no immediate health concerns for residential drinking water; however, residents in areas bordering Swift Creek east of Interstate 95 should expect to smell an odor of gasoline for several days. There is a possibility that citizens will also see an opaque sheen on the waters of Swift Creek. During a preliminary assessment, the Department of Environmental Quality found a few dead fish and are asking citizens to contact the Virginia Department of Emergency Management at (804)

674-2400 to report any sightings of dead fish or other wildlife on Swift Creek over the next several days.

Those with chronic respiratory conditions are encouraged to remain inside because they may experience increased respiratory difficulty in the presence of heavy fume odors. If you experience any increased difficulty breathing contact 911 or your primary healthcare provider for medical care.

Many organizations are involved with this incident including Chesterfield County Fire, EMS and Emergency Management, Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Chesterfield/Colonials Heights Department of Health, Virginia Department of Emergency Management and the State Police.