



Deepwater Horizon Worker Protection Resources

Oil Spill Worker Training Requirements

- OSHA Oil Spill Clean Up Safety Guidelines Statement by Dept of Labor-
http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/posted/2931/NAT_OSHA_10_690_Oil_Spill_Cleanup_Safety_Guides_ENGLISH.556243.pdf
- OSHA Oil Spill Response Fact Sheet-
http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/posted/2931/OSHA_20Oil_20Response_20actsheet.552827.pdf
- OSHA Safety and Health Awareness for Oil Spill Clean Up Workers-
http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/posted/2931/OSHA_Pub_3388_Safety_Awareness_Oil_Spills_English.562287.pdf

Qualified Community Responder (QCR) vs Volunteer

What are the main differences between the volunteer and QCR programs?

According to federal regulations governing oil spill response, volunteers are not allowed near oil-contaminated areas, but properly trained QCRs are allowed in oil-contaminated areas. Volunteers are not paid, but QCRs are paid when they are activated for beach cleaning. Volunteers receive 30 to 45 minutes of environmental and safety training, but QCRs must go through 4 to 40 hours of training, depending on the tasks they perform. The volunteer program operates under the direction of each state, but the QCR program operates under the direction of BP.

What does a Qualified Community Responder do?

Qualified Community Responders will perform shoreline cleanup activities that may include:

- carrying or handling materials and supplies;
- raking or shoveling debris;
- with proper training, operating bobcats or power washers to clean rocks and beach areas;
- wiping or washing oil covered items; and
- removing trash and other debris.

Who can become a Qualified Community Responder?

To ensure the safety of our workforce, all QCR team members must meet the following basic requirements:

1. Successful completion of:
 - A drug and alcohol test;
 - A background investigation; and
 - Training.
2. Ability to:



- Stand for long periods of time;
 - Walk long distances; and

 - Perform repetitive bending and lifting activities.
3. Availability to respond with short notice and work as many as 80 hours within a seven-day period.
4. Photo identification, proof of residency and eligibility to work in the United States is required.

Additional Resources:

- Qualified Responder Fact Sheet- http://www.volunteerfloridadisaster.org/Deepwater/qcrs/FL_QCR_FactSheet.pdf
- Qualified Responder Program FAQs- http://www.volunteerfloridadisaster.org/Deepwater/qcrs/QCR_FAQs.pdf
- BP Gulf Oil Spill Response: Protecting the Responders Presentation Webinar- http://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/public/hasl_get_blob.cfm?ID=8713
- Additional Florida-Specific Information- <http://www.volunteerfloridadisaster.org/>