



Designation: F1279 – 19

Standard Guide for Ecological Considerations for the Restriction of the Use of Surface Washing Agents: Permeable Land Surfaces¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F1279; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This guide covers the use of surface washing agents to assist in the control of oil spills. The guide is written with the goal of minimizing the environmental impacts of oil spills; this goal is the basis on which the recommendations are made. Aesthetic and socioeconomic factors are not considered although these and other factors are often important in spill response.

1.2 In making surface washing agent use decisions, appropriate government authorities should be consulted as required by law.

1.3 Spill responders have available several means to control or clean up spilled oil. In this guide, the use of chemical surface washing agents is considered.

1.4 This guide applies only to permeable land surfaces. This guide does not apply to shorelines.

1.5 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.6 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.7 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F20 on Hazardous Substances and Oil Spill Response and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F20.13 on Treatment.

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2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

F1280 Guide for Ecological Considerations for the Use of Surface Washing Agents: Impermeable Surfaces

F1872 Guide for Use of Chemical Shoreline Cleaning Agents: Environmental and Operational Considerations

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 *permeability*—the capacity of the surface to conduct or transmit liquids such as water. An impermeable surface would not transmit water in a short time (minutes).

3.1.2 *surface*—the top or cover of the land at the site of interest

3.1.3 *surface washing agents*—a chemical agent used to loosen, mobilize or remove oil from a surface such as land. Surface washing agents are not dispersants and should not be used as dispersants

4. Significance and Use

4.1 This guide is meant to aid local and regional response teams who may use it during spill response planning and spill events.

4.2 This guide should be adapted to site-specific circumstances.

5. Environment Covered—Permeable Surfaces

5.1 Permeable ground includes any soil, rock, agricultural land and forest, pasture land, roadside or other surfaces, that are permeable to water and oil.

6. Background

6.1 On permeable surfaces, the main concern is the penetration of the oil downwards and the possibility of soil and

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.