

HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

1010 Darby Road Havertown, Pennsylvania 19083

Official Press Release



Hazmat Response

700 W. Haverford Road
Bryn Mawr, PA

On Thursday, March 23, 2023, officials from Haverford Township responded to the unit block of West Avenue in Bryn Mawr on Thursday to investigate the report of a strong odor of gasoline coming from a storm sewer inlet near the Buck Lane overpass. The anonymous report came through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The Township confirmed both an odor and an unknown substance in the sewer. The substance was coming from the direction of the Phillips 66 gas station at Haverford Road and Buck Lane.

The Township immediately requested a response from the Delaware County Hazmat Team along with the Oakmont and Brookline Fire Companies. Fire personnel placed booms to contain the product and prevent it from traveling toward Cobbs Creek. The Township has contracted with Lewis Environmental to remove the product from the system. By end of day Thursday, the product had been removed and the situation appeared to be under control.

On Friday morning, Township personnel again visited the site and found additional product in the storm sewer system. Lewis Environmental returned to the site and their equipment remains on location to contain the product.

Crews checked nearby homes for the presence of any products or odors. The home behind the gas station was evacuated because the product had entered the sump pit. Those residents are staying elsewhere for the time being. At this time, nothing indicates any other homes have been affected.

The Department of Environmental Protection cited the owners of the gas station at 700 W. Haverford Road for a reportable release of a regulated substance, in violation of Section 1310 of the Pennsylvania Storage Tank and Spill Prevention Act. The product has been found in observation wells on the property, in storm drains, and in a basement sump in a house located behind the facility. The owner of the facility is required to take certain actions under the Corrective Action Process (CAP) regulations in 25 Pa. Code Chapter 245, Subchapter D.

By Friday night, all material had been removed from the tanks at the gas station. According to emergency management personnel, there is no evidence that any product entered Cobbs Creek and there is no immediate threat to life or property. Township, County, and State officials continue to monitor the situation.

To report an environmental emergency to the Department of Environmental Protection, please call 1-800-541-2050.

This is an Official Press Release of the Haverford Township Police Department issued on the authority of Chief John F. Viola.