



River Quest 2012

“Oil Spill Cleanup”

MSU DULUTH

U.S. COAST GUARD

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Learning Question: How does the Coast Guard clean up an oil spill?

Objectives

- 1) Students will be shown how oil interacts with the water and why it is not favorable to the environment.
- 2) Students will be get hand on experience with clean up materials and interact with a simulated spill provided by the USCG.

Vocabulary

The following are vocabulary words which will be used in the “Oil Spill Cleanup” demonstration:

Oleophelic, Sorbet boom, Sorbet pads, Containment, Organic, Inorganic

Implementation

The Coast Guard, Coast Guard Reserve and Coast Guard Auxiliary work together manning a learning station on Oil Spill Response and Oil Spill Recovery. Over the past years on the River Quest cruises, this learning station has consistently been a favorite of students due to the hands on nature of the display. Students actually see oil being introduced into our "marine environment" and then are allowed to try and contain the spill with boom, protect a sensitive environment and recover the oil with suction and absorbent materials.