

# NEN' EL TUU

The CVTC Tribal Response Program Newsletter

Nahluude (Fall) 2023

Volume 5 | Issue 4



## NTS'E BA HNIYAES?

### WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

- **Bede Nt'aennen?** *Who is this?*  
A 90-second Interview: Slick the Oil Spot
- **Nts'e cu tkot'aen?:** What Else is Happening? Upcoming FREE events!
- **Gaa ndaa tkut'ae:** What is this place?  
The TRP Public Record
- **Ula' ettlagh:**  
(S)he is rubbing her/his hand with oil
- **Tlagh et Snakaey:** Oil and Children
- **Hnats'et'aen:** We are playing.
- **Slaaghe dela dezenda?** Can you help?



**t'aghes ney'**

*cottonwood mushroom*

Photo Credit: Richard Chiolerio

# BEDE NT'AENEN? WHO IS THIS? (a 90-second interview)

## 1.What's your name?

Slick! Just like those not-so-cool oil spills, but I'm here to make sure we understand the importance of preventing them.

## 2.What's your job?

My job is to be the mascot of this awesome environmental newsletter and help raise awareness about oil spills and how we can respond to them. I'm like your friendly neighborhood eco-educator!

## 3.Have you ever been to Alaska?

I have definitely been to Alaska. In 1989, I witnessed the devastating Exxon-Valdez oil spill, and it broke my oil-soaked heart. Alaska is still recovering from that tragedy, and it's a reminder of why we must be vigilant in preventing such disasters from happening again. Let's work together to protect our beautiful planet!

## 4.How long have you been working in your position/field?

I've been working in my field, or should I say, "on the field," for as long as I can remember. It's always been my mission to protect our environment from the slick stuff.

## 5.What's something you wish the general public knew about your job?

Something I wish everyone knew about my job is that preventing oil spills is a team effort. It's not just about me - it's about all of us working together to keep our planet clean and green.

## 6.Most routine part of your job?

The most routine part of my job is reminding folks to be mindful of their oil use and how they dispose of it. It might sound simple, but it's a big deal!

## 7.Weirdest/Wildest thing you witnessed while working?

The wildest thing I've ever witnessed while working was observing a charming group of sea otters floating together in the kelp forests of Alaska. They were rolling, playing, and cracking open delicious shellfish on their tummies - a real otter extravaganza! These adorable creatures remind us of the incredible biodiversity of our marine ecosystems and why it's crucial to keep them clean and oil-free. 🐾🌿

## 8.Favorite animal?

My favorite animal would have to be the majestic bald eagle. They symbolize freedom and the importance of protecting our natural habitats.

## 9.Seasonal Question: Would you rather drink a pumpkin spice latte or a hot, spiced apple cider?

Oh, that's a tough one! I think I'd go for a hot, spiced apple cider. It's like a warm hug for your taste buds, and it brings back those cozy, autumn vibes that make you feel all warm and fuzzy inside. Plus, I can enjoy it in a reusable mug, which helps reduce waste and keeps our environment happy!

## NTS'E CU TKOT'AEN? WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING? Tribal Response Program Outreach & Other FREE Happenings

### Ditsiigi na'aaye' (September)

13 (Wed): Night at the Museum - Game Night (3 - 6:30p) - Wasilla Museum  
Come play Brownfield Bingo and other games at the Wasilla Museum!

30 (Sat): 15th Annual Emergency Preparedness Expo (10 - 3p) - Menard Sports Ctr  
Are you Mat-Su Ready? Live demonstrations and fun for the whole family!

### Deniigi saeni (October)

24-25 (Tue-Wed) Cook Inlet Water Quality Summit - Mariott Anchorage  
A two-day informational summit to share Cook Inlet water quality, biodiversity, research, regulations, policy, and more. (<https://www.akwildlife.org/cook-inlet>)



## GAA NDAA TKUT'AE? WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

It's the fifth thing a Tribal Response Program is supposed to accomplish:

**Public Record:** The public record addresses sites at which response actions have been completed in the previous year or are planned in the upcoming year. In contrast, the "timely survey and inventory" element, refers to identifying brownfield sites regardless of planned or completed actions. (See: Element 1)

### What does this mean?

This means that that Tribes must establish and maintain a public record system, as described below, to enable meaningful public participation. Specifically, per CERCLA 128(b)(1)(C), Tribes must:

1. Maintain and update, at least annually, or more often as appropriate, a public record that includes the name and location of sites at which response actions have been completed during the previous year;
2. maintain and update, at least annually, or more often as appropriate, a public record that included the name and location of sites at which response actions are planned in the next year; and
3. identify in the public record whether or not the site, upon completion of the response action, will be suitable for unrestricted use. If not, the public record must identify the institutional controls relied on in the remedy and include relevant information concerning the entity responsible for oversight, monitoring, and/or maintenance of the institutional and engineering controls; and how the responsible entity is implementing those activities.

### Where can I see the Public Record?

The CVTC Tribal Response Program Coordinator (Richard Chiolero) does keep a public record on the CVTC Website:

<https://www.chickaloon-nsn.gov/tribal-response-program/> (It's at the very bottom of the web page)

You can also visit his office in the Administration Building (Ceghaznae Hwnax), or any of our local libraries (Palmer, Wasilla, Sutton) if you want to see a bound copy. Of course, the most up-to-date record(s) can be provided by contacting him using the information on the last page of this newsletter.





# ULA' EŁTLAGH:

## (S)HE IS RUBBING HER/HIS HAND WITH OIL

### MOTOR OIL: THE SUBSTANCE YOU DIDN'T KNOW WAS DANGEROUS

Let's talk about something that might not be on your radar but is super important: motor oil. It's commonplace stuff, so a lot of us don't pay attention to the actual dangers of motor oil, especially if we're using it all the time. In this article, I want to share some info so you can make smart choices for your health and the environment (because, you know, that stuff matters).

## Why This Matters

Before we dive into the tips for preventing oil spills at home, let's understand why it's so important to handle oil with care. Oil spills, whether big or small, can have far-reaching consequences for our environment and well-being. Here are a few key reasons why safe oil handling matters:

**1. Environmental Impact:** Oil spills can wreak havoc on the environment. When oil leaks into soil or water, it can harm plants, animals, and entire ecosystems. This damage can take years, even decades, to recover from. By handling oil safely, we play a crucial role in protecting our natural surroundings.

**2. Human Health:** Some oils, especially those used for industrial or automotive purposes, can contain harmful chemicals. Accidental exposure to these substances can pose serious health risks. By preventing spills, we reduce the chances of these substances entering our living spaces.

**3. Financial Costs:** Cleaning up oil spills, especially large ones, can be expensive. These costs often fall on individuals, businesses, or governments. By taking preventive measures, we can save ourselves and our communities from the financial burden of cleanup operations.

**4. Responsible Citizenship:** Being responsible stewards of our environment is a duty we all share. Handling oil safely in our homes is a simple yet impactful way to contribute to a healthier planet and set a good example for others.

## TLAGH EŁ SNAKAEY - OIL AND CHILDREN

Something a lot of people don't know about used motor oil is that it has toxic effects on children -- even if you can't see the oil! Oil residue can be brought into places where children are on the bottom of your shoes, or on any surface you touched in the home with oil on your hands.

And while it's definitely important for your own health to keep oil off of your skin and out of your living spaces, it's more important for kids: their bodies don't have the blood volume that adult bodies do, so they can't handle the same amount of exposure. What's "no big deal" for an adult can make a kid sick.

Used motor oil has contaminants that are not present in new motor oil. When a car is running, motor oil is exposed to high heat, which creates new chemicals that can be more toxic than the oil itself. Additionally, while circulating through the car machinery, motor oil collects heavy metal contaminants.

### POISON CONTROL

1.800.222.1222

<https://tinyurl.com/2p95bxf6>

Alaska Department of Health:

<https://health.alaska.gov>



## Health Effects

So, you might wonder why we're making a fuss about motor oil. Well, it turns out that this stuff can have some not-so-great health effects if we're not careful.

**1. Skin Issues:** First off, motor oil can be rough on your skin. It might make you itchy, red, or even give you a little burn. Nobody wants that, right? A little bit on your hands every now and then doesn't seem like a big deal, but every time we get oil on our skin, contaminants can cross into our blood. It's always a good idea to wear appropriate gloves when handling motor oil.

**2. Breathing Trouble:** Breathing in motor oil fumes isn't like smelling a bouquet of flowers. It can make you cough, feel short of breath, and your chest might feel a bit off. If you've got breathing issues already, this can make things worse. Your lungs are another great entry point for harmful chemicals getting into your blood.

**3. Eye Irritation:** Get some motor oil in your eyes, and you'll be blinking and tearing up like mad. Not fun. You're probably going to want your eyes later.

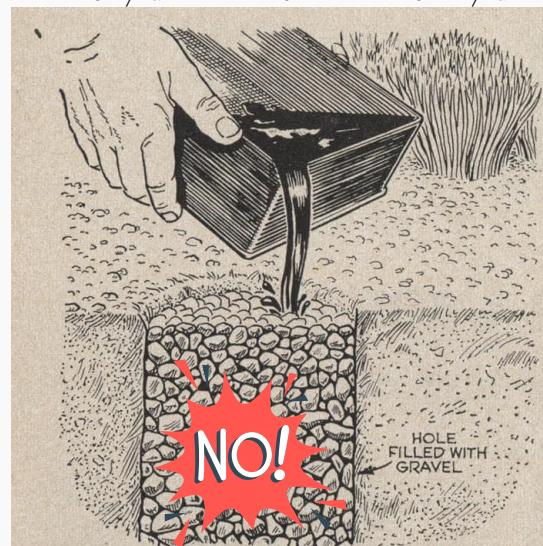
**4. Stomach Aches:** Swallowing motor oil is a big no-no. It can lead to stomach troubles, and trust us, that's not a taste you want in your mouth. We're not talking about chugging oil from the bottle, either. If you weren't wearing gloves and you didn't wash your hands before your lunch break, you're eating more than your sandwich.

**5. Brain and Cancer Worries:** Some of the stuff in motor oil, like lead and benzene, can mess with your head if you're around it a lot. Plus, if you're exposed to this stuff for a long time, it could up your chances of getting certain kinds of cancer.

So, what can you do to prevent this from happening?

1. Take your boots/shoes off before you come into the house. This will keep toxins off of the floor and out of the carpet, which is healthier for everyone: you, your partner, your children, even your pets! (It will also make it easier to keep the floors clean.)
2. If you can, leave your coveralls at the door, too. Oil stains on clothing can easily transfer to a bumped piece of furniture as you're walking around indoors.
3. Don't use the kitchen sink to wash your hands: head for the bathroom. Food is prepared in the kitchen -- no one wants to eat oil-contaminated food.
4. If you wash oil-stained clothing in your washing machine, wash the washing machine before loading it with clothes to keep oil residue from transferring.

Being mindful of used motor oil's hidden dangers is essential, especially for the well-being of children. The simple steps in this article can help create a safer home environment for everyone.



Disposing of used engine oil can be a problem. Solution: Dig a hole in the ground with a posthole digger and fill it with fine gravel. Then pour in the oil. It will be absorbed into the ground before your next change. Cover the spot with soil.

166 POPULAR SCIENCE JANUARY 1963

Thanks to articles like these during the 1960's, much of the American public has a perception that motor oil isn't harmful to the environment or human health. This article was written before the EPA existed (2 Dec 1970). Now there are local, state, and federal laws that prosecute people who do this. Not to mention: it's 100% terrible for the environment and human health!

## Staying Safe

Now, here's the deal: you don't have to be a rocket scientist to stay safe around motor oil. It's pretty simple stuff. Recognize that there is a hazard and be consistent with wearing PPE.

1. **Protect Your Skin:** When you're working with motor oil, cover up. Gloves are your pals, and so are safety goggles. They'll keep your skin and eyes safe.
2. **Fresh Air is Good:** If you're using motor oil, make sure you're in a place with some fresh air. Those fumes can be nasty, so let them blow away.
3. **Avoid Spills:** Try not to spill motor oil, especially on your skin. If it happens, wash up with soap and water. No harm in being cautious!
4. **Don't Eat It:** Seems obvious, right? Keep motor oil away from your mouth by washing your hands before eating. And if someone accidentally swallows it, get help fast.
5. **Dispose Right:** When you're done with used motor oil, don't just toss it anywhere. Find out how to get rid of it the right way in your area. It's good for the environment and your health.



The Central Landfill and all Transfer Stations accept up to five (5) gallons of used motor oil for free per day from residential customers!

Mat-Su Central Landfill

907.861.7600

1201 N 49th State St., Palmer, AK 99645

# DA'ILBEN: IT SPILLED (LIQUID IN A CONTAINER)

BY, SLICK  
THE OIL SPOT

Hey there, folks! We've got something to chat about that affects all of us, and it's not just about following the rules; it's about taking care of our beautiful state. We're talking about reporting oil spills when they happen. We're here to share important information because, well, it's the law in Alaska. We want you to understand why it's essential and how easy it can be. I've reported an oil spill before: the person at the other end of the line is very friendly and will take the matter seriously. They're going to ask you questions, so you should probably be able to tell them where you saw it, how big you think it was, and any other details you feel are important.

Here are three (3) reasons why reporting matters:

**It's the Law, Folks:** So, here's the deal - in Alaska, it's the law to report oil spills, no matter who you are. Whether you're a lifelong Alaskan or just passing through, if you spot a spill, you've got to report it. It's our responsibility to keep this place pristine.

**Any Amount Counts:** Seriously, any bit of oil or petroleum product that spills into the water needs reporting pronto. Even if it's just a drop, it's a big deal.

**Size Doesn't Matter, Reporting Does:** Spills can be tiny or massive, and we need to know about all of them. If it's spilled to land, and it's more than 55 gallons, report it right away. If it's between 10 and 55 gallons, you've got 48 hours to let someone know. Even spills between 1 and 10 gallons need to be recorded and reported to the ADEC every month. It's like taking care of our own backyard.


Be Prepared, Be Smart

**Spills Happen, Be Ready:** We get it, accidents happen. That's why it's smart to have some oil-spill response gear on hand, even if it's just at home. Being prepared can make all the difference when a spill does occur.

**Even at Home, Report It:** You might think spills on private property are no big deal, but they are. The environment doesn't care if it's public or private land; it's affected all the same. So even if it happens at home, report it, and get it cleaned up. Not only will this prevent you from getting sick, but it will go so much worse for you if you don't report it and the state finds out. Yikes.

**Every Drop Counts:** We've all seen that rainbow sheen of oil on the water while fishing, right? But not many folks report it. Well, here's the scoop: "any amount on water" means just that, even a single drop. It's like being a superhero for our environment, one drop at a time.

Alaska, we're in this together. Reporting oil spills isn't about red tape or rules; it's about being responsible and taking care of our state. So, if you see a spill, don't hesitate - report it. Let's keep Alaska pristine and beautiful for generations to come!

 **1.800.478.9300**

- What did you see? Did you take a picture?
- Where did you see it? (e.g. GPS, Mile Marker, Address)
- How much do you think spilled? (estimate if you can)

IT'S THE LAW!

AS 46.03.755, 18 AAC 75.300, 75.325 and 18 AAC 78.200

## REPORT OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SPILLS

### During Normal Business Hours

call the nearest response team office:

**Central Alaska:** (907) 269-3063  
**Anchorage** Fax: (907) 269-7648

**Northern Alaska:** (907) 451-2121  
**Fairbanks** Fax: (907) 451-2362

**Southeast Alaska:** (907) 465-5340  
**Juneau** Fax: (907) 465-5245

**Alaska Pipeline:** (907) 451-2121  
**Fairbanks** Fax: (907) 451-2362

### Outside Normal Business Hours

**Toll Free** 1-800-478-9300

**International** 1-907-269-0667



Alaska Department of  
Environmental Conservation  
Division of Spill Prevention and Response  
[www.dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-  
information/reporting](http://www.dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/reporting)

### Hazardous Substance

Any hazardous substance spill, other than oil, must be reported immediately.

### Oil - Petroleum Products

#### To Water

- ◆ Any amount spilled to water must be reported immediately.

#### To Land

- ◆ Spills in **excess of 55 gallons** must be reported immediately.
- ◆ Spills in **excess of 10 gallons, but 55 gallons or less**, must be reported within 48 hours after the person has knowledge of the spill.
- ◆ Spills of **1 to 10 gallons** must be recorded in a spill reporting log submitted to ADEC each month.

#### To Impermeable Secondary Containment Areas

- ◆ Any spills in **excess of 55 gallons** must be reported within 48 hours.

#### Additional Requirements for Underground Storage Tank Spill Reporting

Regulated Underground Storage Tank (UST) systems are defined at 18 AAC 78.005. Releases at heating oil tanks must be reported.

- You must report a suspected belowground release from a UST system, in any amount, **within 24 hours** (18 AAC 78.220(c)).
- You must report if your release detection system indicates two consecutive months of invalid or inconclusive results.
- If you observe unusual operating conditions, sudden loss, erratic dispensing (slow flow/no flow) or discharge to soil or water, **report it to the UST Unit:**

**907-269-3055 or 269-7679**



The Bystander Effect is when people see something happening, like a problem or an emergency, but because there are others around, they assume someone else will take care of it, so they do nothing. In other words, it's a bit like waiting for someone else to act instead of stepping up yourself.

Now, picture this: there's an oil spill, and you happen to witness it. You might think, "Oh, someone else will surely report it; it's not just my problem." But guess what? If everyone thinks that way, no one reports it, and the spill goes unreported and unaddressed for way too long.

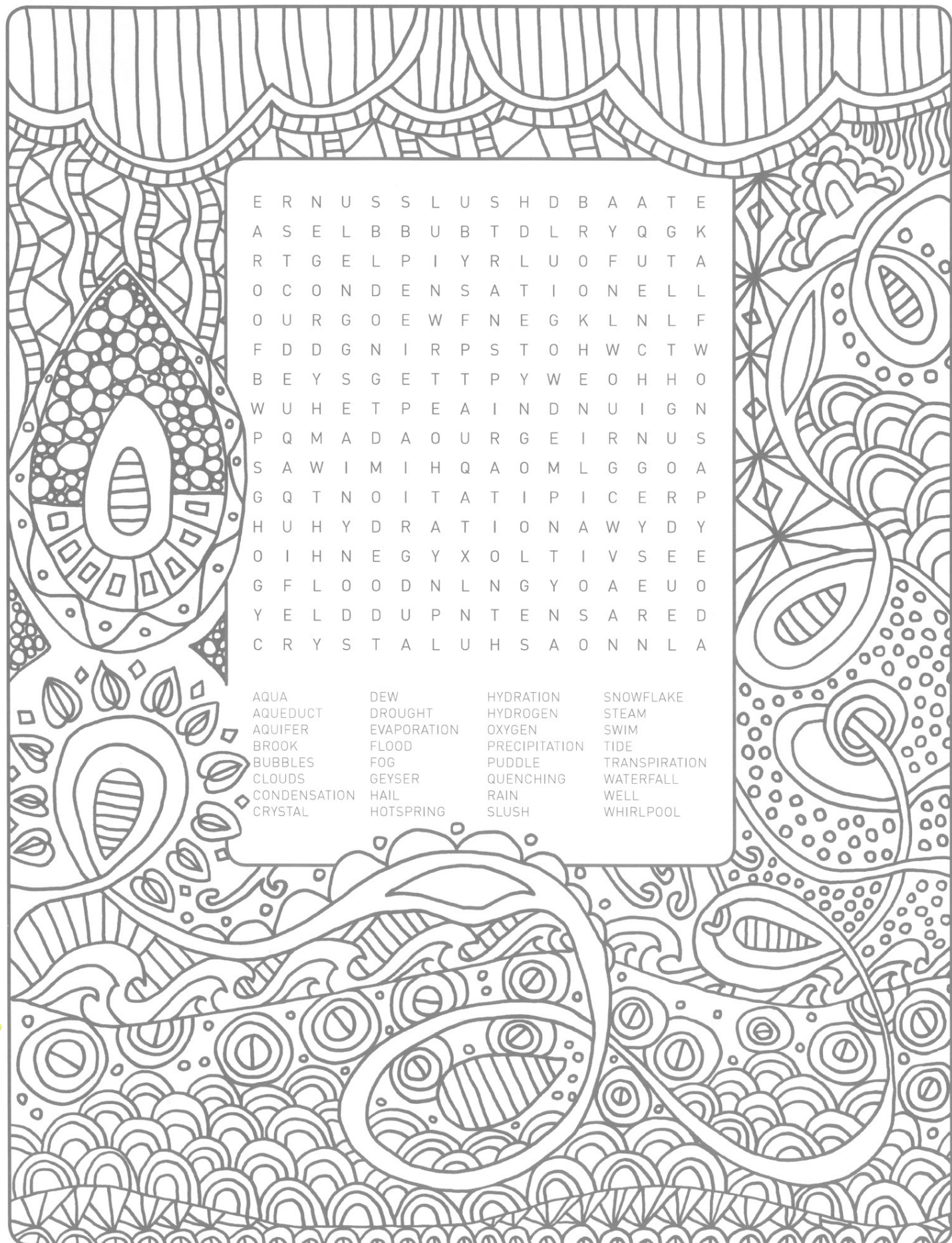
So, in this case, it's important not to fall into the bystander effect trap. If you see a spill, don't assume someone else will handle it - be the hero and report it!



# HNATS'ET'AEN: WE ARE PLAYING

It feels like it's been raining forever this year! Here's a fun, water-themed word search and coloring page. Have fun filling it in while we wait for the snow!

This word search/coloring page was created by WeeLife (12 Mar 2015):  
<http://living.weelife.com/2015/03/word-search-colouring-page-world-of.html>



E R N U S S L U S H D B A A T E  
A S E L B B U B T D L R Y Q G K  
R T G E L P I Y R L U O F U T A  
O C O N D E N S A T I O N E L L  
O U R G O E W F N E G K L N L F  
F D D G N I R P S T O H W C T W  
B E Y S G E T T P Y W E O H H O  
W U H E T P E A I N D N U I G N  
P Q M A D A O U R G E I R N U S  
S A W I M I H Q A O M L G G O A  
G Q T N O I T A T I P I C E R P  
H U H Y D R A T I O N A W Y D Y  
O I H N E G Y X O L T I V S E E  
G F L O O D N L N G Y O A E U O  
Y E L D D U P N T E N S A R E D  
C R Y S T A L U H S A O N N L A

AQUA  
AQUEDUCT  
AQUIFER  
BROOK  
BUBBLES  
CLOUDS  
CONDENSATION  
CRYSTAL

DEW  
DROUGHT  
EVAPORATION  
FLOOD  
FOG  
GEYSER  
HAIL  
HOTSPRING

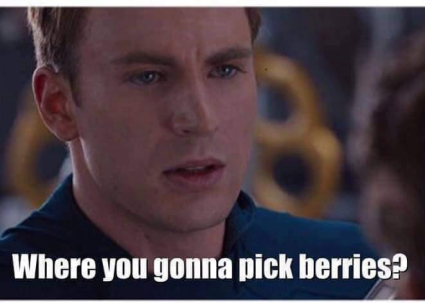
HYDRATION  
HYDROGEN  
OXYGEN  
PRECIPITATION  
PUDDLE  
QUENCHING  
RAIN  
SLUSH

SNOWFLAKE  
STEAM  
SWIM  
TIDE  
TRANSPIRATION  
WATERFALL  
WELL  
WHIRLPOOL



One of Slick's  
naughty cousins  
going for a swim.  
(I think we all  
have a cousin  
like this.)





c'eniye' - mushroom

# HNATS'ET'AEN: WE ARE PLAYING

**START**

**GIGI KA' STADAEŁ**

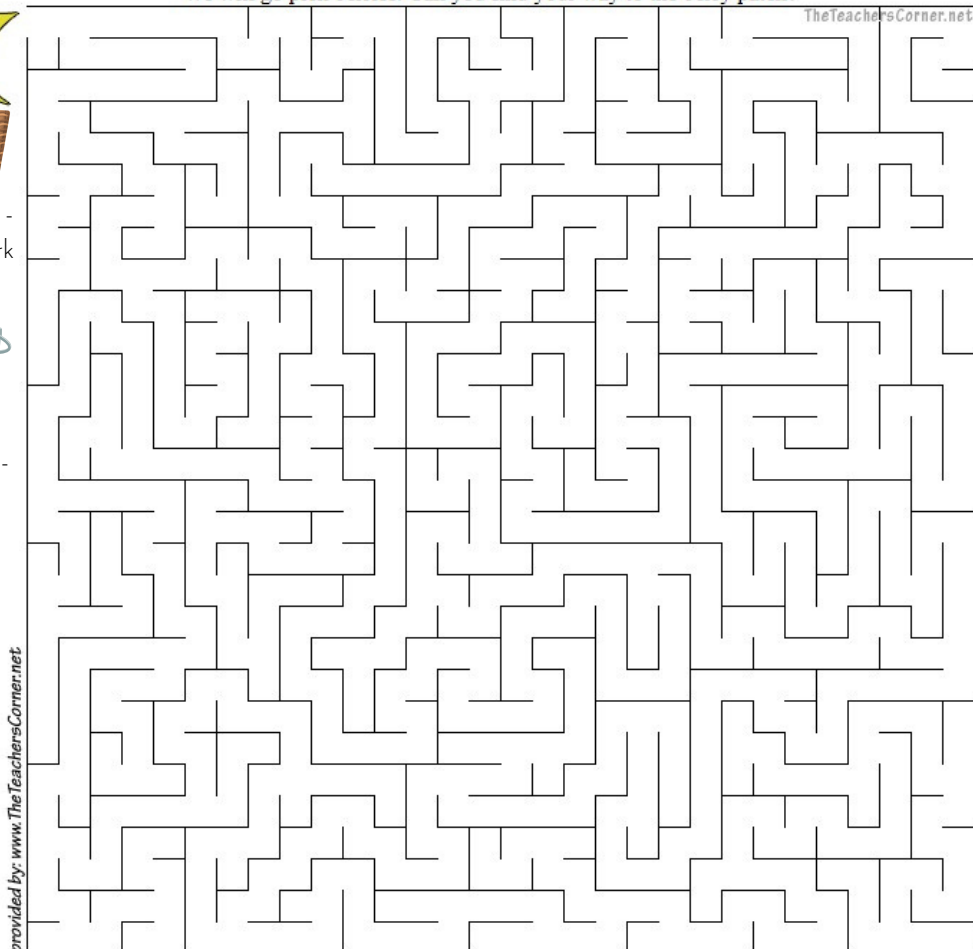
We will go pick berries. Can you find your way to the berry patch?



ghalts'axi -  
birch bark  
basket



naz'aayi -  
bucket



provided by: www.TheTeachersCorner.net

dat's'enc'ogge' -  
raspberry



giznae -  
crowberry  
(black)



xay gige' -  
low bush  
cranberry



gigi gheli -  
blueberry



**FINISH**



@brownfieldbear



Try to make a sentence!

Q: Gaani yide n'aeyi? (What is this?)

A: Gaani tu \_\_\_\_\_. (This is [a/an] \_\_\_\_\_.)

Practice: (berry) + (basket/bucket) + yii nilae (put in)

**SLAAGHE DELA DEZENDA?**

**CAN YOU HELP?**

Curious about the Tribal Response Program?

Wanna talk about brownfields or have me do a presentation?

Got an idea for an article you'd like to see? I'd love to hear from you!

Richard Chiolero

CVTC Tribal Response Program Coordinator

phone: 907.761.3908

email: rechiolero@chickaloon-nsn.gov

website: <https://www.chickaloon-nsn.gov/tribal-response-program/>



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