

Clean-up continues on Highway 9 after fuel spill

By Bill Rea

An eastbound lane of Highway 9, east of Mono Mills, remains closed after an accident early Tuesday morning involving a truck pulling fuel tankers.

Caledon OPP reports the incident took place at about 2:25 a.m. The truck, hauling tandem fuel trailers, was westbound when the driver lost control of the vehicle, causing it to jack-knife and the rear trailer to rollover and spill some of its contents. As a result, the rear trailer spilled approximately 12,000 litres of gasoline onto the roadway, surrounding ditches, catch basins and low lying areas of the highway.

Constable Stephanie Hammond, media officer with Caledon OPP, reported speed did not appear to be a factor in the crash. She added there were no injuries.

The road remained completely closed until shortly after 10 p.m. Tuesday, although the one eastbound lane was still closed and likely to remain closed for about a week. She explained the Ministry of Transportation needs to make sure repairs are carried out, and that environmental crews complete their clean-up, and that's expected to take several days.

Although there was a considerable amount of fuel spilled, Hammond said there's no report that any got into the nearby Humber River.

"They were pretty good at keeping it relatively contained," she observed.

Caledon Fire and Emergency Services, Brampton Fire Services, the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Transportation, Brampton HAZMAT and several crews were at the scene to assist with the clean-up and remediation efforts.

Mayor Allan Thompson expressed appreciation for the work of the crews at Tuesday evening's meeting of Caledon council, pointing out they were working around the clock to prevent contamination of wetlands, etc.

"Our volunteers and our workers have put in a lot of hours so far, and I thank them for that," he said.



Crews were working in the rain Tuesday morning to deal with the fuel spill on Highway 9, east of Mono Mills. Photo by Bill Rea