



CASE STUDY

Garden Contaminated by Neighbour's Oil Tank Spill

✔ Homeowner Satisfied

✔ Insurer Satisfied

✔ No hidden costs



The Challenge

A County Down homeowner contacted us to report a potential oil spill from a heating system at an adjacent property.

The homeowner, and neighbouring residents, had detected a strong smell of oil coming from the foul sewer network.

Following a thorough site investigation, evidence of hydrocarbon contamination was found along the boundary with the source property, beneath the shared boundary wall and along the boundary with a neighbour, down gradient from our clients.

The investigation confirmed that contamination extended to a depth of 2.0 metres.



The Solution



Once on-site, our team acted swiftly to control the extent and severity of the damage.

- **Interception trenches** were installed across the direction of flow to reduce the risk to the main dwelling and migration to neighbouring properties.
- **Recovery wells** were used to extract contaminated ground water and free product.
- As part of the remedial works, a section of **the boundary wall was removed** as the driveway of the property was narrow. This allowed for safe movement in and around the site and saved time, labour, plant and equipment costs.
- The remedial works involved the removal of over **600 tonnes of contaminated material** from the site.
- This was followed by an in-situ remedial programme with **6 chemical treatments** being applied to break down the residual contamination.

The Outcome

After the works had been completed, an independent laboratory analysed a number of soil samples.

The results confirmed that the environmental and health risk associated with the spill had been successfully removed.

We then set about reinstating the garden to its pre-spill condition, backfilling and compacting the external areas to prevent slippage.

We re-built the garden wall, restored all affected paving, and replaced the impacted lawn with topsoil and roll-out lawn.

The client was kept informed throughout the whole process, with regular update reports and communication by email, telephone and numerous face to face meetings.

All the works were carried out within the agreed time frame and costs that had been agreed with the homeowner's insurer.





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