

## **DIY Cleanup of Residential Oil Spill in NY**

Heating oil spills in homes are not common but when they happen it takes the home owner by surprise. This is one such situation where the home owner suddenly realized that there was a large oil spill in his office in basement and it flooded the floor and all his office items. The heating oil tank seen in the figure 1 below in the basement began to release fuel through some lines disconnected without notice. The owner realized that the fuel oil was leaking only when he smelt of strong heating oil coming from his basement. He closed the valve and stopped any release from the tank and surveyed the scene before beginning the cleanup.



**Figure 1. Release of heating oil from the tank**

The floor of the basement was flooded with oil and most of the items in the basement were soaked with oil as seen from the photographs 2,3,4 and 5 below. Every item of use was soaked in fuel oil. The first act of the home owner was to mop up the spilled oil in buckets using all the precautions of protecting from the fumes.



**Figure 2**



**Figure 3**



**Figure 4**



**Figure 5**

Once the released oil was mopped up, he put fans at the bottom of the steps to dissipate fumes produced by the residual oil as seen in the Figure 6 below.



**Figure 6**

### **Removal of fumes**

Next step was to determine the best course of action for eliminating the fumes from the basement. The search on web showed that VaporRemed was most effective in removing fumes quickly and permanently and he contacted Trenton office for pick up of 1 gallon of VaporRemed and he did not need an applicator sprayer since he had a garden sprayer on hand that he could use. In view of the short time he had to complete the job he requested us to meet him at a point nearest to the free way so that he could collect VaporRemed and return back and apply immediately. Accordingly VaporRemed was delivered to him and he applied the same on the floor of the basement and reported next day that the house was free from any heating oil odor or smell and he did not need more VaporRemed.

**VaporRemed worked!!!**