

WAYNE COUNTY

# Driver, company cited in acid spill that closed Middle Belt

**Max Reinhart** The Detroit News

May 21, 2025, 8:58 p.m. ET

The two streets in Livonia that were closed from Monday afternoon into Tuesday due to a spill involving a corrosive chemical will be monitored for a year, city officials said Wednesday, while the driver and trucking company involved in the incident have been cited.

Livonia police have impounded the semitractor-trailer that lost part of its cargo as it made its way on Middle Belt Road on Monday, according to Livonia city spokesperson Chris Jackett.

He said the trucking company will be billed by "many different organizations" that responded to the incident.

The spill happened just before 5:30 p.m. Monday. Officials said a semi traveling south on Middle Belt spilled 300 gallons of ferric chloride acid as the vehicle crossed Eight Mile into Livonia.

Fire officials said there was no community health risk from the spill, though according to the federal National Library of Medicine, the corrosive liquid can be harmful if swallowed, cause burning or irritation to the skin or damage to the eyes and can harm aquatic life.

Jackett said that due to the corrosive nature of the chemical, the Wayne County Roads Division will monitor the condition of the pavement for the next year.

Also, the state's Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy department will conduct an investigation into the incident, Jakkett said.

Both directions of Eight Mile reopened at about 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, while Middle Belt reopened about four hours later.

*mreinhardt@detroitnews.com*

*@max\_detroitnews*