

The range of physical and chemical properties of peat has led to many applications for it. It has long been used in agriculture and horticulture and its properties as a fuel have been appreciated for centuries. As a result of its cellular structure, absorbent properties and high capacity for ionic exchange peat has been used as a natural filter to purify residential and industrial effluents and to absorb liquids and odors.

Peat, in its dehydrated form as Peat Sorb<sup>™</sup>, has additional properties: As a result of its dry cellular structure Peat Sorb<sup>™</sup> has a wicking or sponging action that allows it to completely soak up hydrocarbons where water was once stored. The oil or other hydrocarbon is enclosed within the cells of the Peat Sorb<sup>™</sup> and will not leach out. This appears to be the result of the very large surface area within the modified peat. In this respect Peat Sorb<sup>™</sup> is not unlike activated carbon.







Since it repels water Peat Sorb<sup>™</sup> will float while absorbing water-borne contaminants. Peat Sorb<sup>™</sup> will pick up a full range of petroleum products from crude oil to gasoline and has been used to solidify and absorb resins, PCB's, coal tars, fatty acids and hydrocarbon based inks.

With respect to oil or petrol spills on water Peat Sorb<sup>™</sup>'s ability to float is of great benefit. Depending upon prevailing conditions Peat Sorb<sup>™</sup> will float for considerable amount of time (about two days) before taking on water and sinking.

During this time it will soak up waterborne oil on contact. All oil is absorbent and retained within the Peat Sorb<sup>™</sup> where it can do no further harm to the environment, even if it should sink before recovery workers can remove it from the water. Since it is a nonbiodegradable, totally natural product, Peat Sorb<sup>™</sup> whether it contains oil or not can be left in the subject environment being cleaned up without fear of further damage.