

Safe Science = Good Science June 17, 2021



Chemical Contamination

Personnel contamination to eyes, face, and/or body immediately use the nearest eyewash and/or emergency shower.

- Flush effected area for at least 15 minutes
- Remove contaminated clothing, if necessary.

Know Your Location!

When calling 911 be prepared to provide:

- Exact building name
- Address
- Lab Location
- Name of chemical spilled

Have someone meet the responders outside or in the building lobby to direct them to any injured personnel.



Chemical Spills

Chemical Spill Reporting

Accidental release of hazardous chemicals into the sink or other drains need to be immediately reported by calling ULPD at 852-6111.

Protect our waterways! University policy prohibits sink disposal of hazardous chemicals. Local hazardous materials ordinance requires any amount of hazardous chemical that enters a sink or drain (floor, sanitary, or storm) must be reported immediately.



Report ALL chemical spills, even non-drain spills cleaned up internally, to DEHS at 852-6670. Regardless of size, all chemical spills, must be promptly reported (within 24 hrs.) to DEHS.

Minor Spills

A non-drain chemical spill (less than 1 liter) that does not pose an immediate risk to health:

- 1. Notify lab members of the spill.
- 2. Isolate the area. Close lab doors and clear area, if necessary.
- 3. Remove ignition sources and unplug nearby electrical equipment.
- 4. Vent vapors to outside of the building (i.e. turn on fume hood).
- 5. Locate spill kit.
- 6. Don PPE before handling spill (rubber gloves, goggles, lab coat, etc.).
- 7. Confine and contain. Place absorbent material around the perimeter of the spill, continue inward, covering evenly and completely. Avoid splashing.
- 8. Use plastic scoop/tongs to collect solid material into a large plastic bag.
- 9. Use mild soap, dampen paper towels/pads to decontaminate affected area. Discard used towels/pads/gloves into plastic bag.
- 10. Seal bag closed and label clearly as follows "Hazardous Waste Spill Clean-Up Debris from "chemical name" – hazard of waste (i.e. Corrosive, etc.).
- 11. Follow DEHS procedures to submit waste for chemical waste pick up.

Major Spills

A major spill includes any chemical spill that involves:

- Moderately toxic >500 ml (1pt)
- Highly toxic (LD50 < 50 mg/l) or reactive (air- or water-)
- Spilled material begins to emit acrid, corrosive, or toxic fumes
- Poses an imminent fire hazard
- You need additional assistance

CALL ULPD at 852-6111.