

Hazardous Material Spill

Hazardous materials in various forms can cause death, serious injury, long-lasting health effects, and damage to buildings, homes, and other property. Many products containing hazardous chemicals are used and stored in homes routinely. These products are also shipped daily on the nation's highways, railroads, waterways, and pipelines.

Varying quantities of hazardous materials are manufactured, used, or stored at an estimated 4.5 million facilities in the United States--from major industrial plants to local dry cleaning establishments or gardening supply stores.

Hazardous materials come in the form of explosives, flammable and combustible substances, poisons, and radioactive materials. These substances are most often released as a result of transportation accidents or because of chemical accidents in plants.

OSEH Hazardous Materials Management (HMM) is responsible for the collection and proper disposal of chemical, radioactive, and biological waste generated throughout the 27 million square feet of facilities during teaching, research, and clinical operations at the Ann Arbor campus. The HMM Program supports the University community by providing professional services and oversight.

Training

Most spills on campus occur before the chemicals are packaged for waste removal so it is important to attend laboratory safety training. This training will focus on becoming knowledgeable about what you are working with and learning / implementing the appropriate controls to minimize the risk of a spill occurring. Contact OSEH at (734) 647-1143 for class scheduling.

HMM can provide assistance on proper labeling, packaging, and manifesting of biological, chemical, and radioactive waste in compliance with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Department of Transportation, Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and Michigan Act 451 regulations. Strict compliance with these regulations ensures the waste is managed, transported, and disposed of properly while reducing potential liability to the University.

Emergency Response

HMM staff comprise the core of the UM Emergency Response Team (ERT). This ERT ensures that hazardous material spills are cleaned up correctly to reduce the potential of personal exposure and environmental contamination. The ERT is on-call 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week / 365 days a year to coordinate the cleanup of accidental spills and releases of chemical, radioactive, and biological materials. HMM also provides technical support to the UM Health System Emergency Room staff during treatment of patients who may have been exposed to hazardous materials. For emergency response, call 911.

Updated

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Source

Environmental Protection Agency

Michigan State Police

More Information

<http://chemicalspill.org/>

Response – Hazardous Materials Spill

Spills to Environment

Promptly report any known spills or illicit discharges to DPSS at (734)763-1131. If cleanup assistance is required contact DPSS at 911.

If A Spill Occurs And It Is Safe To Respond:

Secure the area with tape, rope or warning signs to prevent others from being contaminated or spreading the material.

Inform your supervisor as well as others of the spill.

Block any drains that could be impacted by the spill with a spill mat, drain plug, or berm. If the spill enters a storm or sanitary drain, or discharged onto the ground or soil, the spill must be immediately reported to DPSS at 911 to initiate an OSEH response.

When Cleaning Up A Spill:

Familiarize yourself with the material safety data sheet for the spilled material.

Be sure to protect yourself with necessary personal protective equipment.

Be aware of any potential hazards associated with the cleanup.

Place any contaminated materials in a compatible / closeable container that has been properly labeled with its content material and date. Contact HMM at (734)763-4568. DO NOT dispose spill debris or contaminated protective equipment into the general trash, down a drain, or into the ground.

Never wash spilled materials down a storm drain or sanitary sewer, or allow them to evaporate. If any spilled material enters a storm drain or sanitary sewer the spill must be immediately reported to DPSS at 911 to initiate an OSEH response.

Keep on hand and use suitable absorbent materials.

Recovery – Hazardous Materials Spill

Contact OSEH to inspect drains, gutters and flashings. Clean out catch basins. If repair is needed contact Plant Operations at (734) 647-2059

Replace clean-up materials and properly clean and inspect clean-up equipment.

If clean-up assistance is required, contact OSEH at (734)763-4568 or DPS at 911.