

Standard Operating Procedure

Title: Chemical Spill

Major Chemical Spill

1. Evacuate immediate area. Call Environmental Protection Services (Hazardous Materials) at: **416.978.7000 (8:00-4:00, Weekdays)** After hours call Campus Emergency Control Centre: **416.978.2222-St. George Campus**
2. State your name, location, chemical(s) involved, and the amount spilled.
3. Attend to any persons who may have been contaminated. Consult the Material Safety Data Sheet for first aid information. Refer to "[Chemical Spills on Body](#)" for further information.
4. Wait in a safe area for the response team. Your knowledge of the area will assist the team.
5. Do not allow unauthorized personnel to enter the contaminated area.
6. Report the incident to your supervisor and the Office of Environmental Health & Safety and to the local joint health and safety committee. Use the [Accident/Incident Report form](#).

Minor Chemical Spill Indoors

1. **Stop – Think! Do not rush. Carefully plan cleanup. Get material safety data sheet and determine appropriate cleanup procedures for the material.** The effects of a spill can be minimized with proper planning. The size, as well as the resultant hazard from a spill, will partially determine the extent of the required precautions. Planning for emergencies such as spills must be an integral part of preparation for all experimental work.
2. Decide if you can safely handle this spill; **If unsure, call 416.978.7000 for assistance.**
3. If malorourous/hazardous vapours are generated from the chemical spill which can be spread outside the local area contact: **Environmental Protection Services (Hazardous Materials) 416.978.7000** and St. George Campus: Facilities and Services Emergency Maintenance **416.978.3000**
4. Eliminate all ignition sources if flammable material is involved.
5. Turn on fume hoods to capture or direct flow of vapours.
6. Confine the spill to a small area. Do not allow the material to spread. Dike, block or contain the size of spread of liquid spill by using appropriate absorbing material (vermiculite, commercial absorbent, etc.). Should a particular chemical be used extensively in a laboratory, a spill kit is recommended. Appropriate protective equipment and cleanup materials (e.g. neutralizers, absorbent, etc.) must be used. Commercial spill kits are available that contain instructions, cleanup materials and protective equipment required to safely and effectively decontaminate a minor chemical spill.
7. Carefully remove other materials, containers, equipment from path of the spill.
8. Sweep solids of low toxicity into a dust pan and place into container for disposal.
9. Dispose of all cleanup materials as hazardous waste. Waste must be properly packaged in a leak-proof container, sealed and labelled with a hazardous waste label. Call Environmental Protection Services (Hazardous Materials) at 416.946.3473 for disposal.
10. After removal of spilled material, if the chemical is soluble in water, the area should be washed with warm, soapy water to remove any remaining residue.
11. Report the incident to supervisor and Environmental Health & Safety and to the local joint health and safety committee. Use the [Accident/Incident Report form](#)