

Spill Kit Procedures

Chemical spills must be cleaned up immediately ONLY by trained personnel

Small Chemical Spill:

A small spill is generally defined as less than 1 liter or 1 kilogram of chemical that is not highly toxic, does not present a significant fire or environmental hazard, and is not in a public area such as a common hallway. A small chemical spill should take less than 15 minutes to clean up. Small chemical spills can be cleaned up by laboratory personnel who have been trained in spill clean-up and with the appropriate materials. Some factors to consider when doing the cleaning are:

Small Chemical Spill Procedures:

- Alert people in the surrounding immediately of the spill and evacuate all non-essential persons from the spill area
- Help anyone who has been contaminated. Use the emergency shower/eyewash and flush skin or eye for at least 15 minutes
- Work with another person to clean-up the spill. Do not clean-up a spill alone
- Check the chemical's SDS and/or container label to understand the recommended procedures for cleaning up the spill and the PPE to wear. Contact the CSUDH CHO with questions or to request additional support at 310-243-2895
- Wear the appropriate PPE as recommended by the chemical's SDS. At a minimum, eye protection and lab coat must be work during spill clean-up
- Turn off all ignition sources (flames, electrical devices) near the spill area
- Confine the spill to small area using spill kit contents and prevent others from entering the spill area
- Use the appropriate kit to neutralize and absorb inorganic acids and bases. Collect the residue in a clear plastic bag, place in the container, label the container with contents, and dispose it as hazardous chemical waste. Do not dispose of the chemical in the sink or in the trash can
- For other chemicals, absorb spill with vermiculite, dry sand, or diatomaceous earth
- Clean the spill area with soap and a small amount of water (if compatible with the chemical that was spilled). Handle the wastewater as chemical waste
- Collect the residue and place it in a clear plastic bag. Double bag the waste and label the bag as hazardous waste. Contact EHS at 310-243-3000 to schedule a hazardous waste pick-up

Large Chemical Spill:

Large chemical spills include spills of 1 liter or 1 kilogram or more, spills of any quantity of highly toxic chemicals, or chemicals in public areas or adjacent to drains. Large chemical spills require emergency response. If the spill presents a situation that is immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH) or presents a significant fire risk, activate a fire alarm, evacuate the area and wait for emergency response to arrive.

DO NOT attempt to clean up a large chemical spill

Large Chemical Spill Procedures:

- Activate the fire alarm
- Notify people in the area immediately of a chemical spill
- Attend to any injured or contaminated person(s) in the area.
- Use the emergency shower/eyewash and flush skin or eye for at least 15 minutes if it is safe to do so
- Turn off all ignition sources (flames, electrical devices) if it is safe to do so
- Evacuate the area and close the door. Avoid walking through contaminated areas or breathing vapors of the spilled material. Warn others not to enter
- Call University Police by dialing 911 from a campus phone or (310) 243-3333 from a cell phone
- Notify EHS by dialing 310-243-3000, Monday – Friday 8 AM to 5 PM
- Any employee with known contact with a particularly hazardous chemical must shower, including washing of the hair as soon as possible unless contraindicated by physical injuries
- Complete a CSUDH Incident Report and Investigation Form and following incident reporting procedures

For all incidents requiring emergency response, call University Police at 911 from a campus phone or (310) 243-3333 from a cell phone.

To obtain support from Facilities services from 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM Monday through Friday, employees should call the work control desk directly at Ext. 3804.

After hours, employees should call campus police at Ext. 3639.