

Date Prepared: 7/2004  
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Prepared By: P. Watt

**BMP EOC #18**

**TITLE:** CHEMICAL SPILL RESPONSE

**Regulatory Citation:** 29 CFR1910.1200

**Applicability:** Spills of hazardous materials in quantities that can be handled by staff in the immediate area and initiation of assistance for larger spills

**Purpose:** Prompt response to chemical spills

**Person or  
Department Responsible:**

**Schedule:** As needed

**Procedures:** Whenever anyone observes an oil, gasoline, antifreeze or other chemical or hazardous material spill, they will immediately contact the Associate Coordinator of Business Operations. If an oil, gas, antifreeze or chemical/hazardous material spill occurs accidentally in the work area, staff in the area will initially determine the major components in the spill and the quantity. If the spill is large enough that it poses an adverse exposure hazard or cannot be absorbed, neutralized or controlled by the staff in the area, evacuate the area and contact the Associate Coordinator of Business Operations. An emergency response contractor will respond to conduct the cleanup.

If the spill is small enough to be absorbed, neutralized or otherwise controlled at the time of release by staff in the immediate area and does not pose an adverse exposure hazard to anyone, then the spill will be handled in the following manner:

1. Make sure all unnecessary persons are removed from the hazard area.
2. Don the appropriate personal protective equipment
3. If flammable waste is involved, remove all ignition sources and use spark and explosion proof equipment and clothing in containment and cleanup
4. If possible, try to stop the leak.
5. Remove all surrounding materials that could be especially reactive with the materials in the waste.
6. Use absorbent pads, booms, earth, sandbags, sand and other inert materials to contain, divert neutralize and clean up a spill.
7. If waste reaches a storm sewer or floor drain, try to stop the flow from the source by using booms, speedi-dri, earth, sand and notify the Associate Coordinator of Business Services to arrange for pumping to a temporary holding tank or drum as soon as possible
8. Place all containment and clean up materials in a waste container and notify the Associate Coordinator of Business Services for proper storage & disposal.
9. The Associate Coordinator will make sure the container is labeled with the contents, the words "hazardous waste" (if appropriate) and dated. Arrangements will be made for disposal of waste with the approved environmental waste vendor.
10. Inventory supply of spill clean up materials and ensure that it is replaced as necessary.

Spill clean up supplies are kept in the Associate Coordinator of Business Services office. For the Nursing department, a mercury spill clean up kit is available in the department for cleaning up broken mercury containing thermometers.

The Associate Coordinator of Business Services will consult with the Director of Environmental Health & Safety as needed and dispose of all hazardous waste as outline in BMP #2.

**Record keeping:** N/A.

**Record**

**Location:** N/A

**Current vendor for chemical spill clean up:** Environmental Products of Vermont

**Contact:** Associate Coordinator of Business Services 273-1900  
Director of Environmental Health & Safety 629-7163

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