

Internal Hazardous Materials Releases or Spills (Within Buildings)

Examples of hazardous materials releases or spills inside buildings include container leaks; accidents involving blood, chemicals or water; intentional spills or releases from pranks or vandalism; terrorism; or uncontrollable releases, like sewer gas.

Call 394-8114 to report releases or spills of hazardous materials inside of buildings.

1. Evacuate the immediate area and close and lock the doors, if possible, when a spill or release of a hazardous material occurs.
2. Call Campus Safety (ext. 8114) from a safe location outside of the release area, and then call your supervisor. Provide information such as what was spilled or released, where and how much was released, and any information known about the toxicity or hazards of the substance.
3. Campus Safety will assess occupant safety based upon the information provided and contact the EH&S, Facilities Management or Superior HazMat team for assistance.
4. If the release involves a small quantity of low-hazard material, evacuate the area affected. Wait for assistance at a safe location outside of the room or area.
 - a. Record the names of all individuals who were in the area at the time of the release in case they need to be contacted for a health-related follow up later.
5. Campus Safety may provide instructions to start a building evacuation if the spill or release involves:
 - a. An unknown substance or a solid, liquid or gaseous material that is poisonous, flammable, or reactive. (Examples include formalin, compressed gases, acetone)
 - b. Any spill that is spreading rapidly. Even a low-hazard water spill can cause structural damage, injuries to others or damage equipment.
6. Supervisors and individuals involved in the spill should immediately report to the Campus Safety officer when he/she arrives at the scene.
7. If the building is to be evacuated, follow the ***Building Evacuation Procedures***, and:
 - a. Keep people together at the assembly point and encourage them not to leave.
 - b. Inquire about injuries and symptoms of exposure. Provide this information immediately to emergency responders.
 - c. Begin a sign-in sheet at the assembly point so individuals can be contacted for exposure-related follow up after the evacuation.
8. Only small, low-hazard spills may be cleaned up by the spillers, and only after the spill has been reported to Campus Safety and assistance is on site.
 - a. Never attempt to clean up any spill unassisted.
 - b. All appropriate safety measures must be in use during the cleanup.