

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROCEDURE FOR BIOHAZARDOUS SPILLS

In case of a spill involving biohazardous materials, it is important to reduce the possibility of further contamination outside the initial spill area. By preventing the spreading of contamination, you effectively reduce the potential exposure of others.

All spills of biohazardous materials must be cleaned up immediately.

Quick Reference Steps:

1. **Remain calm and move away from affected area:** Offer assistance to individuals who are disabled and others as needed until help arrives.
2. **Summon Aid:** If you are unsure of how to effectively clean the spill, contact the Chemical Control Centre (ext. 3523) or Campus Community Police (dial 911), from a safe area.
3. **Treat Injured People First:** Providing first aid to injured people takes priority over cleaning a biohazardous spill. Inform emergency personnel that spill involves biohazardous material.
4. **Alert Everyone in the Area:** Inform everyone within the vicinity of the spill that an accident involving biohazardous material has occurred. Mark the spill zone and post appropriate signage to reduce the potential for further contamination.
5. **Control Contamination:** Take action to prevent the spread of contaminated materials. If the spill is dry – apply a small amount of water and cover. If the spill is wet, cover with absorbent material.
6. **Clear Area:** Remove all unnecessary individuals from the area of the spill. Attempt to reduce the movement of people within the spill zone.
7. **Decontamination:** Apply decontamination procedures in priority order: (1) personnel; (2) laboratory; and (3) equipment.

University of Windsor Campus Community Police – Dial 9-1-1



Provide the Police dispatcher with the following: your name, phone number, location (room # & building), that incident involves chemicals, and if anyone is injured. Wait for aid to arrive.

For more information, refer to the University of Windsor's Hazardous Materials Spill Response Manual (EHS---2008-05) or contact the Chemical Control Centre.