

# Hazardous Material Spill Quick Reference Guide

## Clean Up Spills Yourself if:

- It is a small, incidental spill of a known substance
- You are familiar with the chemical's physical and health hazards.
- The spill does not involve highly toxic, reactive or multiple chemicals where the reaction by-products are unknown.
- The clean-up procedure is known and appropriate materials are available

## Contact Your Lab Manager or PI if:

- The spill is larger than 4 L, but not acutely hazardous or reactive materials
- You are not familiar with the chemical's physical and health hazards
- The clean-up procedure is not known or appropriate materials are not available

## Call 911 and Evacuate the Area if:

- The spill is uncontrollable or involves acutely hazardous or multiple chemicals
- The spill results in fire or explosion
- The spill results in injuries
- The spill may endanger the environment (spilled outside, etc.)

## Contact Environmental Health and Safety for:

- MSDS information or advice on spills that do not require 911 response
- Notification after 911 call has been made from a safe location
- Metallic mercury spills
- Additional personal protective equipment or spill supplies

## Spill Kit Materials: (Pads, booms & gels can be used on all chemicals, except hydrofluoric acid.)

- Absorbent pads - used for absorbing solvents, acids, and alkalis; can be placed under leaking containers.
- Absorbent booms - used for absorbing solvents, acids, and alkalis; can be used to dike spills.
- Gel absorbent - used for absorbing all liquids except hydrofluoric acid.
- PPE - gloves (green nitrile), splash goggles.
- Equipment - dust pan, broom, collection bags.

## Select Clean-Up Agent & Treat Spill

- use booms to contain spill if necessary
- circle spill with gel absorbent
- cover spill by applying absorbent inward
- mix absorbent thoroughly into spill to absorb excess liquid

## Restore Area

- place waste in yellow bag and clearly label contents (i.e. acetone spill clean-up material)
- rinse area with plenty of water if no reaction hazards remain
- Go to online waste disposal form.