

# SPILL RESPONSE

**CALL 911 FOR ANY LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCY  
IF EXPOSED, FOLLOW THE EXPOSURE RESPONSE POSTER**

## S.W.I.M. FOR ALL SPILLS

- S: Stop** the spill. Cover with absorbent material.
- W: Warn** others. Alert people in the immediate area of the spill.
- I: Isolate** the spill and secure the area. Close doors if possible.
- M: Minimize** your exposure by wearing PPE and avoiding contact, inhalation or ingestion. Vacate the area if necessary. Wash hands after handling spill materials.

## RADIOLOGICAL SPILLS

- Utilize time, distance and shielding to prevent exposure.
- Cover with absorbent material.
- Wear gloves and use tongs/scoop to collect contaminated material as radioactive waste.
- Call UW Radiation Safety at **206.543.0463**. If office closed, **call 911**.
- Notify your supervisor.

## CHEMICAL SPILLS

- *If exposed, use the eye wash or safety shower for 15 minutes.*
- **Large spills:** Pull the fire alarm and evacuate. EH&S can arrange for hazardous spill cleanup at the lab's expense.
- **Small spills:** Trained personnel familiar with the chemical should use the lab's spill kit.
- Staff must protect themselves from skin, eye and respiratory hazards by using personal protective equipment (PPE) during cleanup.

### **EH&S chemical spill assistance is available 24/7:**

- During business hours (Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.), call **206.543.0467**.
- After business hours, call **206.685.UWPD (8973)** to reach EH&S staff on call.

## BIOHAZARDOUS SPILLS

- Cover the spill with paper towels or absorbent material.
- Pour freshly prepared 10% bleach around the spill and allow to flow into spill.
- After 30 minutes of contact time, wipe up and dispose of as biohazard waste.
- Repeat procedure.

If spill contains recombinant nucleic acids, notify EH&S Biosafety as soon as possible at **206.221.7770**.

**Report all spills within 24 hours via UW OARS: <https://oars.ehs.washington.edu>**