Despite our best efforts to be cautious and practice safe work procedures, accidents resulting in the release of chemicals occur. For this reason, it is essential that all areas that use chemicals or chemical products have a spill response plan, proper training, and materials to adequately contain and clean up a minor chemical spill. All chemical users are required to have Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for chemicals stored or used in their area. Several sections of the SDS provide important emergency and spill response information. Product labels are also an important source of information about the hazards of chemical products.

The following procedures outline the steps to take when a chemical or chemical product is spilled.

**For any spill that involves personal injury or chemical contamination**, move the victim from the immediate area of fire, explosion, or spill (if this can be done without further injury to the victim or you), and administer first aid as appropriate. Notify INLOCC and get medical attention following IU procedures. For non-IU victims and for all after hours incidents, call 911. Follow the steps below according to the size and severity of the spill.

**If the spill poses an immediate risk to life and health** because of the type or quantity of the chemical or involves an uncontrolled fire or explosion:

- Evacuate the immediate area and keep others from entering the area until assistance arrives. If building evacuation is necessary activate the nearest fire alarm.
- Call 911 and give details of the accident including location, types and quantities of hazardous materials involved, and any personal injury. Stay on-site until assistance arrives.

**If the spill does not pose an immediate risk to life or health**, a trained individual should do the following:

- Call EHS (or 911 if after hours) to report the spill.
- Remove ignition sources, unplug nearby electrical equipment, and establish exhaust ventilation by opening windows or raising fume hood sashes if it can be done without risking exposure.
- Block any drains or runoff routes to nearby surface waters or stormwater drains if possible.
- A representative from EHS will respond to determine a course of action for cleanup.

**If EHS determines that you can clean up the spill**, a trained individual must:

- Locate a spill kit.
- Choose appropriate personal protective equipment (safety glasses, gloves, etc.)
- Confine and contain spill. Cover with appropriate absorbent material. Sweep solid material into a plastic dustpan and place in a sealed 5-gallon container.
- Wet mop the spill area. Be sure to decontaminate broom, dustpan, etc. Put all contaminated items (gloves, clothing, etc.) into a sealed 5-gallon container or plastic bag. Label the waste container and request waste pickup from EHS.