

Incidental Discharges	Emergency Discharges- Call 911	Spill Response Steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 25 gallons (if you are unsure of amount, reporting is encouraged) • Can be easily contained • Unlikely to reach storm sewer, sanitary drain or navigable waterway • Cleanup procedures do not pose a health or safety hazard • Proper response equipment is available for safe cleanup <p>Workers are not required to have a specified level or amount of training to clean up small, non-emergency spills – they just need to be able to recognize the hazards and be able to follow the prescribed plan that the facility has outlined to safely accomplish the task.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 25 Gallons on or adjacent to public roadway • Cannot be contained and may spread beyond immediate area • May reach storm sewer, sanitary drain or navigable waters • Requires special equipment or training to clean up • Poses hazard to human health or the environment • There is a danger of fire or explosion 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secure the site 2. Follow safety handling procedures according to product label 3. Stop the flow, shut off valves 4. Call 911 for emergency discharges then notify your immediate supervisor 5. Control & contain spill using absorbent material or soil 6. Clean up spill and dispose of properly, or contact outside contractor 7. Complete spill incident report if above reportable thresholds

General Spill Clean-Up Procedures

1. Put on personal protective equipment (PPE). If you do not know how toxic the pesticide is or what type of PPE to wear, do not take a chance: wear a barrier-laminate apron, footwear, and gloves; eye protection; and a respirator.
2. Control the spill by stopping its source. If a small container is leaking, place it into a larger chemical-resistant container, such as a plastic drum or bag. If a spray tank is overflowing, stop inflow and try to cap off the tank. If a tank, hopper, or container has burst or has tipped over and is too heavy to be righted, you will need help. Contact your state Department of Environmental Protection. If the spill occurs while transporting pesticides, contact the local law enforcement agency.
3. Unless they are wearing suitable PPE, keep everyone out of the area until the spill is cleaned up.
4. As soon as the source of the leak is under control, keep the spill in an area as small as possible. For small spills, use containment snakes to surround the spill and keep it confined.
5. Cover the entire spill site with absorbent materials such as spill pillows, fine sand, vermiculite, sawdust, kitty litter, or absorbent pads.
6. After the spill has been contained and absorbed, the material must be picked up and put somewhere, such as a secure drum, for safe keeping in the pesticide storage facility. These materials will then have to be disposed of in a responsible manner. If they are dry pesticide materials, such as granular formulations, they can be placed back in their bag or into the hopper for use. Absorbent materials and soil contaminated in a spill of a liquid can be collected and placed in a suitable container (such as a plastic or metal bucket), and then applied as a pesticide to a site for which that pesticide can be applied as directed on the pesticide label. **Do not use this method to dispose of soil that has been contaminated over a long period by pesticide discharges, since some of this soil may be classified as a hazardous waste.** Clothing contaminated by most pesticides can be disposed of as solid waste (trash).
7. If the spill occurred on a containment pad, hose the area down following the spill's removal.
8. Use a mixture of chlorine bleach, dishwater detergent, and water to clean vehicles and equipment that the spill contacted.

Hazardous waste must be disposed of properly, usually by a licensed hazardous waste contractor. A waste is hazardous if it has these types of characteristics:

Ignitable: wastes that are flammable or spontaneously combustible. If they have a flashpoint of less than 140°F or an alcohol content of 24% or more, they are hazardous wastes.

Corrosive: wastes that can burn the skin or corrode metal. Liquids with a pH of 2 or lower or 12.5 or higher are corrosive.

Reactive: wastes that are unstable and may explode or react violently with water or other materials.

Toxic: wastes that contain certain heavy metals above specific concentrations, such as chromium, lead or cadmium, or toxic organic chemicals.

To identify hazardous wastes:

- Ask for the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) before working with new pesticides. Detailed information on interpreting the language of the SDS may be found in UF/IFAS EDIS Document PI-35, *Understanding Safety Data Sheet Language* (<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pi072>).

- Talk to product suppliers and manufacturers.

- **Read product labels**—this should be done **before handling** any pesticide product.

Spill Kit Contents

Simple spill kits contain:

Chemical-resistant gloves

Chemical-resistant coverall or apron

Chemical-resistant boots

Chemical splash goggles

Respirator

Temporary hazardous material storage bag

Absorbent pad for water- or solvent-based chemicals

Absorbent tube sock (containment snake)

Bentonite/polymer mix paste for plugging leaking containers

Floor absorbent granules or cat litter

Shovel or broom

Dust pan

Warning sign or Caution tape