

Chemicals and toxic substances pose a wide range of health hazards (irritation, sensitization and carcinogenicity), physical hazards (flammability, corrosion and explosibility) and environmental hazards (water quality degradation, affecting habitability for plants and animals and bioaccumulation of pollutants in the food chain). Eliminating and minimizing the use of a toxic chemicals or substituting their use with a less harmful product is always the most desirable way to control an unwanted chemical release to the environment. Employees must be trained and know the risks involved with the materials they are using. Training should include how to promptly and safely respond to an accidental spill. Information about potential hazards associated with products along with spill-handling procedures can be found using the manufacture's Safety Data Sheet (SDS).



Especially when working outdoors, it's important to follow established chemical handling procedures. Being cautious and planning ahead are good control measures, as are thinking about what could go wrong and paying close attention to the job at hand. All materials should be used solely for their intended purpose (e.g., don't use gas to wipe down equipment). Storm drains should be protected by using spill socks and/or absorbents. Spill kits should be available in areas where chemicals are handled and stored.

The following excerpt from the **City of Tempe Facility Chemical Handling and Spill Procedures** can be used to address spill prevention and cleanup at any facility:

Spill Prevention

- Use the least toxic material needed to complete the task.
- Avoid storing materials outside uncovered.
- Be aware of drainage areas when working with materials outside.
- Inspect material containers for damage and leaks; report problems to the supervisor.
- Wear the required personal protective equipment (PPE) whenever handling hazardous or non-hazardous materials.
- Know where the SDS forms are kept and read them before using the material.
- Know how to clean-up materials being used and have the proper tools and equipment to do so available on-site, including the SDS and a Hazardous Waste Management Plan (HWMP), if applicable.
- Know the proper method of disposal of waste and what to do with left-over materials (refer to the SDS for that material).
- Use secondary containment for materials whenever possible.

Spill Cleanup

- Large spills and leaks need to be reported to the supervisor immediately.
- Spills of a dangerous nature need to be reported immediately to 911 and to the supervisor –

professionals may be required to do the clean-up.

- If minor spills can't be cleaned-up quickly and safely, the spill must be isolated from nearest storm water conveyance such as a catch basin, drywell or storm drain. Don't take actions beyond your training, equipment or ability. Call the supervisor and for clean-up assistance.
- Spills in a public right-of-way need to be isolated from traffic and the public.
- Deploy barriers (e.g., cones, flagging tape) before clean-up. Contact the supervisor for these types of spills.
- Always use proper PPE (e.g., gloves, eye protection) when cleaning up spills. If you don't have the proper equipment, contact the supervisor.
- Disposal of spilled materials must be made in accordance with regulatory standards.

ADEQ Updates related to Stormwater



- Existing Construction General Permit (CGP) permittees have between July 1, 2020, and August 31, 2020, to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) using the [myDEQ portal](#). To help permittees apply for 2020 Construction General Permit (CGP) coverage, ADEQ is holding online demonstrations that include screen-by-screen tutorials of the NOI, No Discharge Certificate (NDC) and CGP waiver process on June 22, 2020 and July 6, 2020. For more information about the CGP, to RSVP for training or to see the new permit visit <https://azdeq.gov/AZPDES/CGP>.
- The EPA Navigable Waters Protection Rule that provides a new definition of Waters of the United States (WOTUS) will become effective on June 22, 2020. ADEQ currently is reviewing the rule in detail. The new rule will narrow protection for some Arizona waterways. ADEQ is launching a community engagement program to potentially address any gaps and protect Waters of Arizona. Learn more about the process at <https://azdeq.gov/woaz>.

If anything other than stormwater running is running in the street or into a catch basin please report it [online](#) or call 480-350-4311. Tempe will investigate to stop pollutants from entering waterways.

Preventive measures or best management practices reduce materials to stormwater exposure thereby limiting the amounts of pollutants available to be picked up by storm water. Be Stormwater Smart and assist Tempe in reducing pollutants in stormwater runoff see www.tempe.gov/stormwater and remember...

Only Rain Down the Storm Drain

