

# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT FOR RETAILERS



## Thurston County Business Pollution Prevention Program

☎ 360-867-2664

📞 TDD: 360-867-2603



## Hazards in the aisle....

Hazardous products such as pesticides, solvents, concrete cleaners, strippers, lye, and fuels can cause retail stores big problems if they arrive in damaged containers or spill in the aisles. All businesses stocking hazardous products should be prepared for a spill. Careful preparation will help avoid injury to workers, customers, and contamination of local soil and water.

If a spill occurs outside and impacts air, land, or water, immediately contact 911 and the Washington Department of Ecology at 360-407-6300.

### Be Prepared

Know the hazardous products you sell and where they are located within the store. Manufacturers of hazardous products are required to supply Safety Data Sheets (SDS). You are required to make SDS available to your employees. Make sure they are easy to access in case you ever have to respond to a spill.

## If You Have A Spill

Determine the hazards of the spilled product (ignitable, reactive, corrosive, or toxic) so you can protect yourself and respond correctly. Check the most current SDS if you are unfamiliar with the product. Follow your company's spill plan. If no spill plan, contact the PPA program for guidance. Most important is to stop and contain the spill if safe to do so.

## Storage of Spilled Materials

Containers of spilled materials and contaminated absorbent materials should be stored in a secured, ventilated, dry area away from sources of heat, sparks, and water. Consult the product's SDS to identify other chemicals or products that should not be stored next to containers of spilled materials.

**Accidental mixing of these and other incompatibles chemicals may result in violent reactions that can release toxic vapors or start fires.**

A dedicated waste storage area should be located away from exterior doors, floor drains, and major travel routes. The area should be secured, and wastes should never accumulate inside the storage area. Any shelving used to hold containers segregating the wastes should be adequately secured to the floor and wall to prevent accidental tipping.

## Disposal of Wastes

Wastes that result from spills of hazardous materials must be disposed of as hazardous waste. This waste includes any remaining product in the ruptured container, all absorbent materials used to contain the spill, and any disposable protective equipment, such as gloves and some type of aprons. These wastes should be stored in appropriate containers until removed by a hazardous waste disposal vendor or taken to an alternate disposal location.

Small businesses that generate less than 220 points of hazardous waste per month can dispose of it at the Waste and Recovery Center, HazoHouse. If more than 220 pounds of hazardous waste is generated per month then a licensed vendor must be hired for disposal (see below). Business can drop by HazoHouse with wastes between 8 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. everyday. The facility is located at the 2420 Hogum Bay Rd NE Lacey, WA. Businesses are asked to call in advance to set up disposal appointments prior to arriving 360-867-2912.

## Additional Information

For answers to your questions about spill plans, training, or waste disposal options, please contact the Business Pollution Prevention Program at (360) 867-2664, Monday through Friday. Thurston County Business Pollution Prevention Program has several fact sheets that can be requested by calling the office or viewed on our website: [www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/ehhw/index.html](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/ehhw/index.html)

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