

## General Guidance for Handling Chemical Waste Spillage / Leakage

1. Instruct students and untrained personnel to keep at a safe distance well away from the affected area.
2. If necessary, open windows, provide forced ventilation and close the door / doors of the room where the spillage / leakage has taken place.
3. If the spillage / leakage involves highly toxic, volatile or hazardous waste, initiate emergency evacuation and call the emergency service.
4. Only trained persons equipped with suitable protective clothing and equipment should be allowed to enter and clean up the waste spillage / leakage area.
5. (a) Spillage / leakage of liquid waste at storage area

Where the spillage / leakage is contained in the enclosed storage area, the waste can be transferred back into suitable containers by suitable handheld equipment, such as hand operated pumps, scoops or shovels. If the spillage / leakage quantity is small, it can be covered and mixed with suitable absorbing materials such as tissue paper, dry soft sand or vermiculite. The resultant slurry should be treated as chemical waste and transferred to suitable containers for disposal.

- (b) Spillage / leakage at other areas

For spillage / leakage in other areas, immediate action is required to contain the spillage / leakage. Suitable liquid absorbing materials such as tissue paper, dry soft sand or vermiculite should be used to cover the spill. The resultant slurry should be treated as chemical waste and transferred into containers for proper disposal.

6. Areas that have been contaminated by chemical waste spillage / leakage should be cleaned. While water is a suitable solvent for aqueous chemical wastes and water soluble organic waste, kerosene or turpentine should be used for organic chemical wastes that are not soluble in water. The waste from the cleanup operation should be treated and disposed of as chemical waste.
7. In incidents where the spillage / leakage may result in significant contamination of an area or risk of pollution, dial 999 or contact the Fire Services Department for help. The EPD should also be informed immediately in case the services from the CWTC Emergency Response Team is required.