

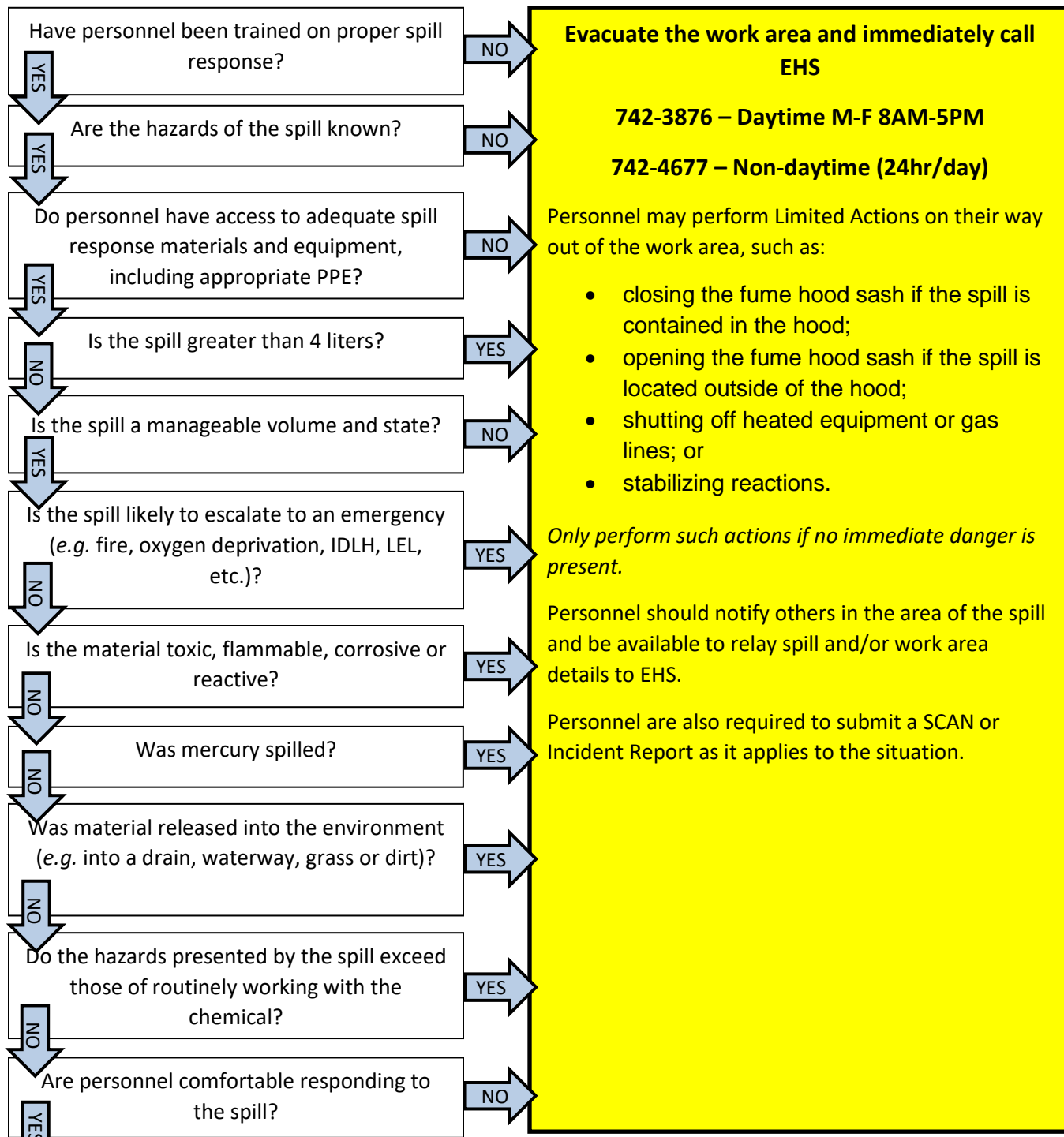


TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

## Environmental Health & Safety

### DOES YOUR SPILL REQUIRE EHS RESPONSE?

Follow the flow chart to determine if EHS should respond to your spill.



**Evacuate the work area and immediately call EHS**

**742-3876 – Daytime M-F 8AM-5PM**

**742-4677 – Non-daytime (24hr/day)**

Personnel may perform Limited Actions on their way out of the work area, such as:

- closing the fume hood sash if the spill is contained in the hood;
- opening the fume hood sash if the spill is located outside of the hood;
- shutting off heated equipment or gas lines; or
- stabilizing reactions.

*Only perform such actions if no immediate danger is present.*

Personnel should notify others in the area of the spill and be available to relay spill and/or work area details to EHS.

Personnel are also required to submit a SCAN or Incident Report as it applies to the situation.

**Lab personnel may clean up the spill themselves using the guidance provided in Appendix AC of the Lab Safety Manual and the chemical Safety Data Sheet. Submit a SCAN report to EHS after cleanup is complete.**



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## Environmental Health & Safety

### Basic Spill Response Equipment

Spill kits in work areas should be appropriate to the hazards present. Some potential components of spill kits are listed below:

- Absorbents
  - Paper towels
  - Pig pads
  - Dams for large spills
  - Commercial absorbent powders
  - Clay kitty litter
- Neutralizers
  - Acid Neutralizer (included in EHS provided spill kit)
  - Alkali Neutralizer
  - Solvent Neutralizer
- Disinfectants (see Section B7.2 of the University Laboratory Safety Manual)
  - Freshly prepared 10% bleach solution
  - Alcohols (ethanol or isopropanol)
  - Quaternary ammonium salts
- Personal Protective Equipment
  - Household rubber gloves
  - Splash goggles or face shield
  - Lab apron or coat
- Tools for Clean-up
  - Forceps, tongs or other tools to pick up and collect broken glass
  - Broom and dust pan
  - Plastic bags
  - Rigid container with lid to collect broken glass

NOTE: Use disposable clean up supplies when possible because contaminated tools will be considered hazardous waste.



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## Environmental Health & Safety

### Basic Chemical Spill Response Steps

1. Notify other personnel in the laboratory to stay clear of the spill area.
2. Decontaminate any victim at the nearest safety shower or eyewash unit for a minimum of 15 minutes. Take other appropriate action as described in the SDS.
3. Notify your supervisor or appropriate personnel to the spill.
4. Limit or restrict access to the area as necessary.
5. Wear clean PPE appropriate to the degree of hazard presented by the spill. This may include a dust mask, lab apron, additional gloves, face shield, etc.
6. Gather all spill kit materials.
7. Surround the spill with an appropriate neutralizer or absorbent to keep the material from spreading.
8. Do not neglect furniture, equipment and vertical surfaces (i.e., cabinets, walls, doors) when cleaning a spill.
9. Cover the spill area completely with absorbent. Follow manufacturer instructions if using a commercial absorbent.
10. If the spill contains a biohazard, cover the spill with absorbent pads or paper towels then saturate with an appropriate disinfectant and allow adequate contact time for disinfection before cleaning. Disinfect the area a second time after the absorbent material has been removed.
11. Gather the contaminated clean-up materials (including broken glass and contaminated tools and PPE) into a closeable bin and label as hazardous waste. Broken glass disposed of in a broken glassware bin must be decontaminated before disposal.
12. It is prudent to mop the spill area after cleaning the spill.
13. Submit a Waste Pick Up request for the container in a timely manner.
14. Submit a SCAN report <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/ehs/about/scan.php> to EHS detailing the spill.
15. Request a new spill kit from EHS if the EHS-provided spill kit was used for clean-up.