

PROTECTING YOUR FAMILY FROM CHEMICAL SPILLS

Stay healthy in the event of a chemical spill with these simple steps!

THE CHEMICAL SPILL AND HEALTH CONNECTION

From 2010 to 2012, there were 835 chemical spills in Wisconsin.

Chemical spills can affect your health in many ways, such as irritating your skin, eyes, and lungs, or affecting your brain function.

Take these important steps to protect your health and that of your family in the event of a chemical spill.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

- **Safely dispose of contaminated clothing.** If your clothing has come into contact with a dangerous chemical, cut it off rather than pulling it over your head. Put the clothes into a plastic bag, using tongs to handle contaminated clothing. Put the tongs into the bag too. Seal the first plastic bag inside of a second one. Then alert your local officials of your “contamination bag” for proper disposal.
- **Make a disaster emergency kit.** Important things to include in your kit: three-day supply of food and water, can opener, cell phone and charger, flashlight and batteries, first aid kit, extra cash, and a change of clothes.
- **Know who to call.** Always report a chemical release to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The toll-free hotline for chemical spill assistance is 800-943-0003. You can also contact the Poison Control Center (800-222-1222), Animal Poison Control Center (888-426-4435), Environmental Protection Agency (312-353-2318), or Wisconsin Department of Health Services (608-258-0099).

IF A SPILL OCCURS

Report the spill.



Pro tip: If a chemical is released on your property or at work, call the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (800-943-0003).

Shelter in place when instructed.



Pro tip: To keep your home safe during a “shelter in place” order, seal all vents, doors, and windows with plastic and tape.

Evacuate when instructed.



Pro tip: Have an emergency disaster kit in your home and car to ensure a speedy evacuation.

For more tips, view the full toolkit at:

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