

Chemical Safety FactSheet

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Many people work with and around chemicals everyday that can be hazardous if not used properly. Cleaners, solvents and detergents are examples of potentially hazardous chemicals when misused. By following safe practices when using chemicals, employees can protect themselves against chemical hazards.

- Always read the labels on the products before you use them.
- All chemical products have an MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet) listing the product's specific hazards. Contact your supervisor to review the MSDS and learn the hazards of the chemical.
- Always wear personal protective equipment (gloves, goggles, mask, etc.) when using chemicals. The MSDS will tell you what equipment to wear.
- Follow label warnings and instructions.
- Do not mix chemicals! For example, never mix bleach with ammonia.
- Learn emergency procedures in case you or others are exposed to chemical splash or fumes. These procedures can be found on the MSDS.
- Keep containers closed when not in use. Store chemicals in original containers in a cool, dry place.
- Only use chemicals in well-ventilated areas.
- Make sure chemical containers are labeled properly. If you do not have an appropriate label, ask your supervisor.

The Texas Department of Insurance,
Division of Workers' Compensation (TDI/DWC)
E-mail resourcecenter@tdi.state.tx.us
or call 1-800-687-7080 for more information.



Photo by Scott Bauer, courtesy Agricultural Research Service

- Make sure chemicals are diluted properly. Do not exceed the dilution ratio for concentrated chemicals. For instance, if the label calls for one ounce of chemical to be mixed with one gallon of water, don't add two ounces.

Your supervisor can provide more information on chemical hazard recognition, use, storage, and protective equipment.

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Safety Violations Hotline
1-800-452-9595
safetyhotline@tdi.state.tx.us