

# Chemical Release/ Spill

Many businesses and industry locations in Kansas City have substances that may have chemicals that can have ill effects on humans if not handled properly. Those locations are required to have placards on their building that house those chemicals to notify any that enter. Chemicals are also present in all households in smaller quantities. Knowledge of these chemicals, regardless of quantities, can help prevent injuries.

## What should I know?

- Read labels of products to understand what is in your household, and what the emergency procedures are when an accident occurs.
- Be aware of who your neighbors are in your community. Most large businesses and industry, even small printing operations, may use hazardous chemicals. Contact local regulators for more information regarding businesses.
- General rule for exposure to unknown hazardous materials, *don't taste, touch or smell materials*.

## What should I do if there is a release/ spill?

- Don't touch any substances unless you know what they are.
- If in the home, and the chemical is known, look at the container for emergency procedures.
- If in the home, and the chemical is unknown, call 911 to report it.
- If the release is an offensive odor, leave the area, and call 911 to report it.
- If the release is from an industry, call 911 to report it.

## What are the health effects?

Hazardous materials can cause burns, internal injuries, and damage to mucous membranes.

**For more information, contact the Kansas City, Missouri Health Department,  
Air Quality Program, 816.513.6314**