If you work with chemicals or biologicals:

- Be prepared to handle spills and releases,
- Know the potential hazards in your work area,
- Know what can happen if a chemical or biological is released,
- Use proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and
- Use techniques to avoid exposure.

Basic Supplies: Commercial kits are available, but a basic kit for most spills up to 500 ml can be put together easily with inexpensive materials.

- Five (5) gallon bucket(s) with lid (store kit)
- Latex/Surgical Gloves
- Safety Glasses, Goggles, or Face Shield
- Disposable Lab Coat
- Aprons or gowns
- Absorbent material to contain spill (paper towels, spill booms or pillows, vermiculite)
- Small disposable plastic broom and dust pan
- Zipper seal type bags (1 gallon size)
- Waste disposal bag
- Small bottle of detergent cleaning solution
- Disinfectant
- Hazardous waste sticker
- Biohazard sticker

Be sure to replace kit contents as necessary.
**Small Chemical/Biological Spill Clean-up Procedure:**

- Alert people in immediate area of spill and restrict access
- Locate spill kit.
- Don appropriate PPE – consult MSDS for special precautions
  - Long sleeve lab coat, back fastening gown, or jumpsuit
  - Disposable gloves
  - Disposable shoe covers
  - Safety goggles, mask, or full-face shield
- *For Chemical spills* – use kit material to absorb liquid, then dispose as chemical waste. If powder form, carefully sweep into dustpan. Avoid generating respirable dust. Dispose of as chemical waste.
  - Mercury spills – use kit material to carefully collect broken thermometer and loose mercury and place into a sealable container. Contact Chemical Safety at 4-2487. The Department of Occupational Health and Safety is equipped with a mercury vacuum to effectively remove spilled mercury.
- *For Biological spills* – Carefully pour disinfectant around edges of spill then into spill. Avoid splashing. Let sit 20 minutes. Absorb spill, then clean spill area with clean towels soaked with disinfectant. Place all contaminated material in plastic bag, autoclave, and dispose as medical waste.

**Large Chemical Spill Clean-up Procedure:**

- Contain the spill, if you can do so without risk to yourself or others.
- Warn others in the immediate area, notify the PI or supervisor.
- Evacuate the area if necessary.
- Contact Chemical Safety at 4-2487 immediately and provide your name, extension, location of spill, quantity and name of chemical spilled. Chemical Safety will contact the Emergency Spill Response Team. They are specially trained to handle hazardous chemical spills.