



**Disaster Plan
Chemical Spill
(Code Brown)**

Section

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POLICY

The home shall have a plan in place in the event of a chemical spill inside or outside the facility. This event shall be identified as a " Code Brown "

Procedure

Chemical Emergency Outside of the Home

- Close all doors and windows and shut down the entire ventilation system which includes all fresh air make and all exhaust units. This will minimize the chemical toxins that may be air borne from getting inside the building.
- Under the direction of the fire department or police or other city officials, total evacuation of the building may be initiated to move all persons out of harm's way.
- In the event of a total evacuation follow the total evacuation procedure as per Fire Plan.
- In a chemical emergency, the wind direction will be an important factor in determining a safe means of evacuation.

Chemical Emergency inside the Home

- Evacuate the area of the spill or leak
- Call 911 and inform them of the emergency and inform them if there are injured people.
- The home maintains a very small amount of hazardous chemicals mainly all used for daily cleaning. The most hazardous in a spill scenario will be toilet bowl acid which is very corrosive and damaging to breath and for skin exposure.
- Other instances that may be hazardous that are used by the home would be chlorine bleach which is very corrosive and reactive to toilet bowl acid. These two cleaning chemicals are very toxic by themselves and even compounded if they were to mix with each other creating a gas that will consume oxygen and prevent a person from breathing.
- As dangerous as these two chemicals are they are both water soluble and can easily be diluted to a minimal toxic state. If a concentrated solution of either one of these cleaning chemicals is spilled the best solution is to pour large amounts of water on the spill then mop it up with clean cold water only. No other cleaning chemical must be present in the mop water used.

➤ If there is a natural gas leak within the Home;

- do not turn on lights or any other appliance with a switch.
- Call 911 immediately then remove all residents and persons out of the area as far away as possible.
- Do not pull the fire alarm
- Open all windows in the area to dissipate the concentration of the gas.
- Call the home's HVAC contractor; contact information is on the emergency call list for building repairs located in either med room.
- Once the fire department arrives direct them to area of leak and to the main shut off for natural gas at the north side of the building outside.
- NOTE; for a natural gas leak to be ignited by a spark, the concentration must be between 4 to 16% and for a concentration to be reach these levels the area of the leak would have to be totally sealed for the concentration to increase. That being said there is no area in the building where natural gas is used or plumbed in walls or ceilings where the concentration levels would ever accumulate to a dangerous explosive level. All areas in the building using natural gas are continually vented to the outdoors. These areas are as follows;
 - Boiler room west – room is naturally vented outdoors not mechanically.
 - Boiler room south - room is naturally vented outdoors not mechanically.
 - Laundry room clothes dryers – room is naturally vented outdoors not mechanically.
 - Kitchen – room is mechanically vented by 3 separate exhaust fans and room is not sealed. Gas will not be contained in the kitchen, it would leak out into the hallways if windows were closed or all 3 exhaust fans were shut down or inoperable. To further make it impossible for natural gas levels to accumulate to ignition levels in the kitchen area, the west fresh air make up vent is directly plumbed into the room to constantly bring in fresh air.

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