

Preventing or Reducing Dispersal of Radioactive Contamination Following a Spill

Standard Operating Procedure

Revision Date: 06/04/18

Procedure: Preventing or Reducing the Chance of Spreading Radioactive Contamination

1. Notify all individuals in the general vicinity that a radioactive material spill has occurred.
2. Isolate the area and keep other personnel out of the contaminated area such as, but not limited to:
 - Locking the door
 - Roping off the area of the spill
 - Posting a sign
3. Notify area supervisor.
4. Notify RSS or U-M Police Department.
 - RSS at (734) 764-6200 between 7:30 am and 4:30 pm
 - U-M Police Department at (734) 763-1131 after 4:30 pm and on weekends
5. Stay in the area.
6. Is anyone injured?
 - If YES, administer first aid, then go to the next step.
 - If NO, go to next step.
7. Using the appropriate radiation survey equipment, determine if your clothing or skin is contaminated. Is there evidence of radioactive material on your person?
 - If YES, use the following table for instructions about removing the radioactive contamination, then to go the next step.

IF THE CONTAMINATE IS ON...	THEN...
Clothing	Remove contaminated clothing and place it in a plastic bag.
Skin	Lather skin with mild soap/detergent and warm water for several minutes.

- If NO, go to the next step.
8. Determine if radioactive material has been dispersed.
 - If YES, use the following table for cleanup instructions:

IF THE CONTAMINATE IS...	THEN...
A liquid	Place absorbent paper on the area of the spill.
Fine powder	Place damp absorbent paper on the area of the spill.
Airborne (or could be)	Turn off fans, hoods, and ventilation and close all doors and windows.

- If NO, go to the next step.
9. Stay at the site of the spill until RSS arrives.
 10. If you have a bag of contaminated clothing, give the bag to RSS to evaluate.