Minor Chemical Spill Procedures

A minor spill is when:

- The chemical spilled has a *low to moderate hazard*;
- *No one has been exposed* to the chemical; and
- Laboratory workers have *sufficient equipment and training* to properly clean up the spill.

Follow these procedures for **minor chemical spills**:

1. **Protect yourself and alert others**: Avoid contact with the spilled material. Wear appropriate PPE. Treat all chemicals as if they are hazardous.
2. **Contain the spill and secure the area**: Cordon off the spill area. Do not walk through or allow others to walk through the spilled material.
3. **Clean up the spill**: Use your chemical spill kit to clean up the spill. Cover liquid spills with vermiculite. Use scoop and broom to sweep up spill or vermiculite. Place spill material and vermiculite in plastic bag or other compatible container and label to identify contents. Further decontaminate the area as necessary with mop or paper towels, if appropriate.
4. **Clean Up**: Wash hands and replace items used in chemical spill kit.
5. **Contact OEHS** to request chemical waste pickup. Call 862-4041 or 862-3526. Notify your supervisor of the spill.
Major Chemical Spill Procedures

A major spill is when:
- The chemical spilled is **flammable, reactive, or highly toxic**;
- **Someone has been exposed** to the chemical; or
- Too much of a chemical has been spilled for the amount of absorbent in the laboratory.

Follow these procedures for major chemical spills:
1. **Protect yourself and others**: Shut off any sources of ignition and stop the source of the spill, if you can do so without endangering yourself.
2. **Evacuate the immediate area**, closing the door behind you.
3. **Pull the fire alarm**, if building evacuation is necessary because:
   - A chemical reaction creates a fire or potential for a fire.
   - The spill is flowing outside of the room.
   - Fumes or odors are permeating the building.
4. **Call OEHS at 2-4041 or 911** and immediately notify your supervisor.