

Radioactive Spill Procedures

Radiation Safety Office Contact Information

Room B112 Telephone: 615-327- 6642 Fax: 615-327-6648.

Prevent the spread of contamination. Do not panic, but stop what you are doing. Presume the area is contaminated. Inform others of the situation and restrict access to the area.

1. Survey for personal contamination. Remove any contaminated clothing.
 - a. Contamination on skin.
 - b. Activity of the spill is greater than 10 μCi .
 - c. The spill is outside of the immediate work area.
 - d. The spill covers a large area or volume.
 - e. **Call RSOF if any of the previous statements applies.**
2. Do not forget your dosimeter or the proper protection equipment: gloves, laboratory coat, and eye protection, booties, before attempting spill clean up.
3. Survey the contaminated area. Mark the perimeter of the spill and any isolated spots.



4. Thoroughly clean by wiping the contamination with dampened paper towels working from the perimeter towards the center of the spill. Cleaning solutions such as: Dow Scrubbing Bubbles, Windex, Fantastic, or 409 are generally effective.
5. **Remember!** Radioactive paper towels must be disposed of in the respective radionuclide's radioactive waste container (i.e. cleaning up ^{32}P contamination...throw contaminated paper towel in the ^{32}P waste).



6. Once finished with the decontamination, survey the area to make sure that it is reading background levels. Perform an extensive personal survey. Take your time in surveying your hands, shoes, laboratory coat, pants and your face. Less than three days after the spill, fill out the **Radiation Incident Report Form** at <http://www.mmc.edu/page.asp?SID=2&Page=1331>