

Catholic Mutual . . . "CARES"

LIABILITY CONTROL

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, CHEMICALS AND FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS

Hazardous Materials, Chemicals and Flammable Liquids cover a very wide range of materials that could prove dangerous for one or more reasons such as poisonous, flammable, explosive, hard to handle, hard to dispose of, or toxic. If you come in contact with a substance you are not sure of or a material you are unfamiliar with, use caution. Always read the labels on the containers and follow the directions. If there are no labels or directions on the container and you are not sure of how to handle a potentially hazardous item, check with your supervisor.

Caution shall always be used when handling or mixing any chemical or flammable liquids. Chemicals cover a broad range of items, some of which we never consider as hazardous or dangerous; like bleach or detergents used in laundries, or cleaning solutions used in everyday housekeeping. If these items are improperly mixed, injury or damage can occur.

If protective clothing is needed or if special procedures or precautions are called for, take the time to follow them very closely before attempting to handle or mix the chemical or flammable liquid.

Example of Chemicals

"Chemicals" may include, but are not limited to the following:

Germicide - Bleach	Shampoo	Foot Powder
Antiperspirant	Scouring Powder	Ammonia
Deodorizer	Medicated Ointment	Window Cleaner
Insecticide	Furniture Polish	Oven Cleaner
General Purpose Cleaner	Dust Mop Treatment	Drain Cleaner
Dishwashing Detergent	Laundry Detergent	Floor Finish

Never take a short cut when it comes to the recommendations or directions on the labels as they are there for your protection and safety.

1. Keep all chemicals locked up when not in use.

2. Keep all chemical containers labeled at all times.
3. Protective clothing shall be worn when mixing or working with chemicals whenever necessary or prescribed.
4. Always store or transport flammable liquids in proper containers.
5. Always use caution against fires when working with or around flammable liquids.
6. Always store combustible materials that have become saturated with a flammable liquid in a covered metal container.
7. Always use proper respirators when handling any chemicals whose fumes or vapors can be toxic.
8. Remove your clothing immediately should they become soaked with a flammable liquid or corrosive chemical.
9. Thoroughly rinse all areas of the body that come in contact with a flammable liquid or corrosive chemical.
10. Do not assign inexperienced personnel to handle or mix any chemical or flammable liquids.
11. Do not try to handle any chemical or flammable liquids if you are not absolutely sure of what you are doing. If in doubt, contact your supervisor.
12. Do not mix chemicals unless so directed on manufacturer's labels.
13. Do not alter the "Use of Directions" of chemicals, dilute only as prescribed on the label.
14. Do not allow residents to make their own chemical solutions.
15. No chemicals shall be used by any employee at this facility that have not been approved for use.
16. Do not store flammable liquids in glass containers.

17. Do not dispose of any flammable liquid by pouring them down a toilet or drain.
18. Do not try to catch a sharp object or a glass object if it starts to fall. Let it go; then pick it up (if it is a knife or tool) or sweep it up (if it is broken glass).
19. Dispose of broken glass and crockery immediately, in a proper waste container.

Hazardous Materials

Pressure Cans

1. Do not spray contents in anyone's face or eyes.
2. Do not direct spray from a pressure can at an open flame.
3. Do not puncture or incinerate pressure cans.
4. Do not excessively use aerosols around persons who are non-ambulatory or confined to bed.
5. Always read and follow all directions on the label.

Gas Cylinders

1. Cap all cylinders not in immediate use.
2. Secure cylinders to a wall or within an enclosure.
3. Remove wrappings from cylinders so that the label and colors are clearly distinguished.
4. Identify the gas contents by the written name on the label; do not depend solely on the color coding on the cylinder.
5. Do not subject cylinders to extremes of temperature, particularly heat.
6. Do not upset the cylinder or violently strike the regulator or valve.