

Chemical Inventory Management & Hazardous Materials Compliance

Proper chemical management assures staff and students are provided a safe and secure environment to learn in. Appropriate management of chemical products found in District facilities limits the potential for adverse health effects and/or physical injury due to the use of the products whether for instructional use or for equipment/facility maintenance.

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Regulations require compliance with safety rules to protect health and safety of all building occupants and Superintendent Policy does not allow facilities to be unprotected, inadequately maintained, or unnecessary put at risk.

Environmental Compliance helps aid individual departments on how to assure the instructional environment is safe from chemical hazards by promoting the Department of Public Health and Environment's criteria documented in the **Rules and Regulations Governing Schools in the State of Colorado, Chapter 8** (see attached link under program description) and by evaluate existing and new instructional techniques and/or equipment/facility maintenance for potential hazards.

Some general facility guidelines for sound chemical management are as follows:

- Develop and post general operating instructions, regulations and procedures where hazardous products and/or equipment are used.
- Develop a written plan for response to and cleanup of chemical spills. A list of first aid procedures for accidental poisoning shall be posted. The telephone number and location of the nearest poison control center shall be posted near the telephone.
- Toxic or hazardous materials shall be stored in approved laboratory containers, separated by reactive group and stored in a ventilated, locked, fire-resistant area or cabinet. A written plan that explains the proper storage, handling and disposal procedures for all poisonous, toxic or hazardous substances. These plans shall be retained in an accessible area away from the chemical storage location.
- Containers of chemicals, poisons, corrosive substances and flammable liquids shall be clearly labeled with the name of the material and the date the material entered the facility.
- **Prohibited Chemicals** pose an inherent, immediate and potentially life threatening risk, injury or impairment due to chemical properties to the students, staff or other occupants of the school. The chemicals listed in **Appendix A** are prohibited from use, storage, purchasing or accepting as a donation and a link to Appendix A has been provided under this program description.

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- **Restricted Chemicals** are limited by use and/or quantity and are listed in **Appendix B**. If restricted chemicals are used in the instructional environment, each chemical shall be addressed in the school's written emergency plan. Chemical products that are **Restricted for Demonstration Use Only** (do not allow students to participate in the handling or preparation of these restricted chemicals) are listed in **Appendix B2**. A link for both of these documents has been provided under this program description.
- All chemicals, solvents, and hazardous substances shall be inventoried by the school a minimum of once a year. Chemical inventory shall be retained in an accessible area away from the chemical storage location. St Vrain Valley Schools is currently performing a District Wide Chemical Inventory for each department.
- Exposure to noise, or toxic liquids, dusts, gases, mists, fumes or vapors or other hazards shall be controlled to avoid health hazards.

Proper hazardous material management starts from purchase of the product and continues through ultimate disposal of the item. St Vrain Valley Schools has recently built a working relationship with the Boulder County Hazardous Material Management Program to help assure cost effective, legal disposal of hazardous items. If a department has a chemical they are in need of disposing of, simply complete the **Hazardous Chemical Disposal Request Form** linked under this program description and forward it to the Environmental Compliance Coordinator to schedule removal (a budget and contractor will need to be assigned for the disposal action).

St Vrain Valley School District is committed to practicing sound chemical management practices and to observance and adherence to all Local, State, and Federal rules and regulations.

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Concern/Question/Information

Environmental Compliance Coordinator

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or

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