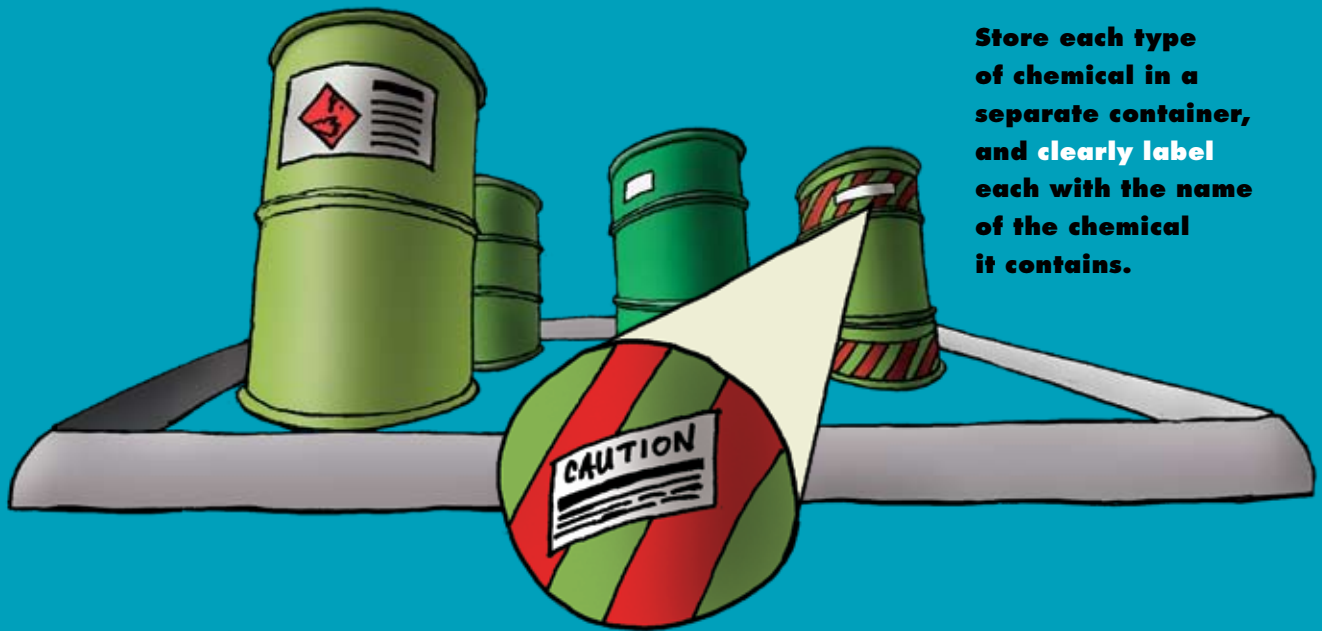


information sheet 05

# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS





**Store each type of chemical in a separate container, and clearly label each with the name of the chemical it contains.**



**Have on hand the Material Safety Data Sheet for all hazardous substances used.**



**For large scale, hazardous spills, call the Fire Brigade immediately. Dial 000.**



**STOP. CONTROL. CONTAIN** all spills. Block stormwater drains as they go to the rivers.



# Hazardous materials

Hazardous materials include chemicals and other materials that can harm people and the environment.

## Use of chemicals

- Investigate alternatives that are less dangerous.

## Labels and material safety data sheets

- **Always** read labels on chemical products. They identify ingredients, dangers and important safety information about the product.
- **Always** have on hand the material safety data sheets (MSDS) for all hazardous substances used. An MSDS tells you how to use and dispose of a hazardous substance safely.

## General information about chemicals

- Chemical containers must be stored in a covered and bunded area away from stormwater drains.
- Clearly label all containers.
- Do not store incompatible chemicals together.
- All staff must know the potential hazards.
- All staff must be aware of emergency telephone numbers.
- Have an emergency plan that outlines what to do in case of a spill.

## What to do in the event of a spill

- Large-scale spills – immediately contact the Fire Brigade. **Dial 000.**
- Small-scale spills – follow the MSDS for the spilled substance.
- If the spill threatens the environment or your health you must immediately notify the Fire Brigade and / or Emergency Pollution Response  
Telephone: 1300 784 782

## General spill procedures

- Stop the source of the spill immediately if safe to do so.
- Make sure that staff and other people are not exposed to the spill material.
- Contain the spill and control its flow.
- Stop the spill from entering any stormwater drains by blocking the drain inlets.
- Clean up the spill promptly by following advice in the relevant MSDS.
- Clean up equipment to be readily accessible, such as:
  - mops, brooms
  - containment booms to stop spills entering drains
  - absorbent material to clean-up spills.

## Dangerous goods

- Some materials are classified as dangerous goods.
- The use and storage of dangerous goods is controlled under the *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004*.
- Dangerous goods are classed by the nature of their hazard, such as:
  - CLASS 1: Explosives
  - CLASS 2: Gases – Flammable, compressed, toxic
  - CLASS 3: Flammable liquids
  - CLASS 4: Flammable solids
  - CLASS 5: Oxidising solids
  - CLASS 6: Toxic Substances
  - CLASS 7: Radioactive substances
  - CLASS 8: Corrosive substances
  - CLASS 9: Miscellaneous dangerous goods

For more information on the transport of dangerous goods and licensing contact the Department of Mines and Petroleum. Telephone: 9222 3333

### For more information:

Department of Environment and Conservation  
General enquiries – 6467 5000  
Your Local Council – Environmental Health Section  
Yellow Pages under:  
Waste Reduction and Disposal Services  
Oil and Chemical Spill Recovery or Dispersal

**Check out other Information Sheets in this series.**

These information sheets have been produced by Perth Region NRM in consultation with our partners.  
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