# **HAZARDOUS WASTE CONTINGENCY PLAN**



# **UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-STEVENS POINT**

This plan supplements the Campus Emergency Management Plan and provides additional detail and background for campus hazardous waste spill response.

Revised by:

Environmental Health and Safety Officer University Chemical Hygiene Officer University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Stevens Point, WI 54481

Effective: September 2002

Revised: 19 May 2021

This contingency plan is submitted in compliance with Chapters NR 664.0051-664.0056, NR 662, NR 665, NR 706 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code, Parts 262, 265, 302 of Title 40 of the Federal Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1910.120(q)(1) and Section 1910.38(a) of Title 29 of the Federal Code of Federal Regulations (OSHA regulations). It contains the following sections:

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#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP) is a four-year university founded in 1894 with an enrollment of about 9,000 students. It grants both undergraduate and graduate degrees. UWSP employs about 1200 faculty, academic and support staff. Facilities include 13 major academic and administrative buildings, 14 residence halls and 3 residence centers. The campus has significant science and natural resources programs that generate most of the hazardous waste.

UWSP is a large quantity hazardous waste generator by U.S. EPA definition. Approximately 10,000 pounds of hazardous waste is generated annually consisting primarily of lab chemicals and solvents. Occasionally, a small quantity of acute hazardous waste such as cyanides will be generated. The university uses a large number of chemicals, typically in small quantities. The Environmental Health and Safety Department presently maintains a subscription to ChemWatch which catalogs all safety data sheets for products used on campus facilities.

Stevens Point is a city of 26,670 located in the geographic middle of the state. It is the county seat of Portage County (population 70,380). The main campus is located at the intersection of State Highway 10 and Interstate 39. Street addresses of buildings mentioned in this plan include:

Old Main (offices of university administration): 2100 Main Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481

Chemistry Biology Building (Chemistry labs,\* Biology labs,\* stockroom,\* and 125F\*\*): 2101 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Stevens Point, WI 54481

Science Building (science labs,\* and Physics radioisotope storage): 740 Reserve Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481

College of Natural Resources (Biology labs,\* Natural Resources labs,\*and stockroom 134,\*\*): 1900 Franklin Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481

Maintenance and Materiel (Paint Shop,\* maintenance, and 174\*\*): 1848 Maria Drive, Stevens Point, WI 54481

University Stores Rm 120, (petroleum products, chemical and compressed gas storage): 1848 Maria Drive, Stevens Point, WI 54481

601 Division St. Bldg. Residential Living Department. (Paint Shop and maintenance) 601 Division St. Stevens Point, WI. 54481

Noel Fine Arts Center (Art & Design,\* Theater & Dance, Communications, and Music) 1801 Franklin St., Stevens Point, WI. 54481

See the map in Appendix A for further information.

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point EHS Manual Hazardous Material Contingency Plan

<sup>\*</sup>Satellite hazardous waste accumulation area

<sup>\*\*</sup>Central hazardous waste accumulation area

#### **EMERGENCY COORDINATORS AND CONTACTS**

The emergency coordinators for the purposes of this plan are:

Jamie Brzezinski, (Primary Contact)
Environmental Health and Safety Specialist
133 Old Main Building
UW-Stevens Point
Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481
Office phone: (715) 346-2320
24-Hour Contact Number: (715) 254-5665

Email: jabrzezi@uwsp.edu

Kevin Czerwinski, (Alternate Contact)
University Chemical Hygiene Officer
408 Chemistry Biology Building
UW-Stevens Point
Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481
Office Phone: (715) 346-4154
24-Hour Contact Number: (715) 340-2216

Email: kczerwin@uwsp.edu

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# Other useful contacts include:

Administration:		
Thomas Gibson, Chancellor*	213 Old Main	(715) 346-2123
Pratima Gandhi, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs*	201 Old Main	(715) 346-2641
Al Thompson, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs*	213 Old Main	(715) 346-2481
Greg Summers, Provost and Vice Chancellor*	202 Old Main	(715) 346-4686
Emergency Operations Center:		
Tony Babl, University Police Chief	003 George Stien	(715) 346-3456
Corinna Neeb, Emergency Management Specialist	125 George Stien	(715) 346-4464
Facility Services:		
Paul Hasler, Director	120B M&M	(715) 346-4275
Physics:		
Mick Veum, Chair	B207 Science	(715) 346-3508
Kevin Czerwinski, UCHO		(715) 340-2216
Chemistry Biology Building:		
Keith Turnquist, Building Manager	125B	(715) 346-3252
Brent Speetzen, Stockroom Mgr.	223C	(715) 346-3759
Trainer Natural Resources Building:		
John Oestreich, Building Manager	196	(715) 346-4238
Pending, Stockroom Mgr.		(715) 346-XXXX
Noel Fine Arts Center:		
Stuart Morris, Asst. Dean	259 NFAC	(715) 346-4776
Justin Playl, Studio Technician	191 NFAC	(715) 346-3339
601 Div. St. Bldg-Residential Living:		
Tom Garton, Housing Superintendent	601 Div. St. Bldg	(715) 346-4101

<sup>\*</sup> Administrative Officers authorized to activate campus emergency management plan.

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#### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONTINGENCY PLAN

The contingency plan will be implemented if a hazardous materials incident may threaten human health or the environment. Examples of hazardous material releases that may necessitate the use of this plan include chemical, radioactive, biological, petroleum product and asbestos materials. This plan should be implemented whenever a release presents a significant inhalation hazard or response requirements (staff, training or equipment) exceeding the resource availability of the organizational unit in which the release occurs. To aid in the determination of when outside assistance is necessary, please see Appendix C, "Determining Appropriate Hazardous Materials Response." When outside assistance is necessary, the campus emergency operations team should be activated. This team is led by the Chancellor or designee and has the authority to commit staff and resources for effective response. (See contact list above). Copies of the campus emergency management plan can be found in the administrative office of Student Affairs, Business Affairs, Chancellor's office, and University Police.

The Emergency Coordinator shall have primary responsibility for activating the plan, but in his or her absence, any member of the crisis management team can activate this plan. Core team members are identified in the crisis plan, as are situation-specific resource teams such as community health, crime, communication, etc.

#### **TRAINING**

Training is an important element in successful hazardous material response. Members of the Emergency Operations Team will be appraised of the content of this plan. The emergency coordinator and alternates should successfully complete the 24-hour OSHA hazardous materials operations course. Those who work with hazardous materials should be trained in incidental spill response, usually an 8-hour course. University Police staff should complete the 8-hour OSHA hazardous materials awareness course. Those who generate hazardous waste on campus should complete a hazardous waste training course. Annual refresher training should be completed by all involved in crisis and spill response as indicated by the OSHA and EPA requirements.

# HAZARDOUS WASTE ACCUMULATION/STORAGE AND EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT LOCATIONS

The locations of the satellite hazardous waste accumulation areas and the 90 day hazardous waste storage area are identified in Appendix B.

Emergency equipment at each waste accumulation and storage area is available for those trained in its use. Staff who will be engaged in response to hazardous material releases or who frequently work with hazardous materials training are encouraged to receive training proportionate to the level of response they expect to be engaged in.

Each University building is equipped with a wet standpipe and/or attached hose as well as numerous fire extinguishers. The resident halls are equipped with smoke alarms, and remodeled resident halls have sprinkler systems. In addition, Old Main and Albertson Hall have automatic sprinkler systems. Each facility is equipped with a local fire alarm system that can be activated from and is audible in each working area.

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Telephones are located within easy access to the accumulation sites. University Police officers are equipped with a two-way radio that keeps them in contact with University Police and the Portage County Communication Center to alert proper authorities promptly of any mishaps.

The Stevens Point Fire Department, located one block (west) from central campus, has fire trucks that would be available to combat a fire or assist in the event of any other emergency at university facilities. The Fire Department maintains five ambulances in good working order. St. Michael's Hospital is located one block (east) from central campus. (See Appendix A – Campus Map Showing Hospital and Significant Generator Locations).

Portage County has a Type IV hazardous materials response team certified at the Operations level operating out of the Plover Fire Department. When additional resources are needed, the Plover Hazardous Materials Response Team requests assistance from the Waupaca County HazMat Team (Type III). All members of the Waupaca County HazMat Team must be specially trained to operate at hazmat incidents and are certified at the hazardous material Technician (or Operations) level. At a hazardous materials incident, team members operate as a Branch of the local fire department under a unified incident command structure. The Wausau Fire Department maintains a Type II Hazardous Materials Response Team.

#### **EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROCEDURES**

#### NOTIFICATION

Any employee discovering a hazardous material release will assess the seriousness of the release and if necessary, contact University Police (x3456), who will in turn contact the emergency coordinator(s).

The emergency coordinator will assess the situation. If necessary resources are available (equipment and trained staff) clean-up procedures will be initiated. If outside assistance is necessary, it shall be requested by dialing 911 and providing the following information.

Name and telephone number of the reporter.			
Location of the spill including name and address of facility or grounds location.			
Time and type of incident (e.g., spill occurred at exact time).			
I Identification and quantity of materials involved (e.g., 50 gallons electroplating waste in tar			
area).			
Extent of injuries (e.g., no injuries).			
The possible hazards to the environment and human health outside the facility (e.g., possible			
contamination of ground water).			

If the release requires contractor cleanup assistance, the state response contractor should be called. For UWSP, this information is available via the UW-System Web site "Contracts fo Spill Resposnse & Waste Disposal." If a hazardous material/waste spill results in a release to the environment, the emergency coordinator will call Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, (800) 943-0003, the National Response Center, (800) 424-8802 (for a major release), and UWSA Office of Risk

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Management at (608) 262-5656 to report the incident. The information noted above should be relayed.

If the spill may represent a hazard to building occupants, Facility Services should be contacted to control ventilation in a manner that will minimize contaminant migration within the building. Where possible, room exhaust that is vented directly outdoors should be maintained while re-circulation of supply air should be prevented. Facility Services can be reached at (715) 346-4219.

Following the report of the release, the Emergency Coordinator or alternate will call the Vice Chancellor, Business Affairs. The campus Public Information Officer will serve as a communication link between individuals responding to the release, the emergency operations team and the public. Any employee discovering a hazardous material release that represents a threat to building occupants must activate the emergency fire alarm in that particular building and contact the University Police dispatcher at x3456. Refer to Appendix C - Determining Appropriate Hazardous Materials Response.

All employees hearing that alarm must evacuate that building and wait for clearance from the Stevens Point Fire Department or the University Police Department personnel before re-entering.

#### **EVACUATION**

Facility personnel will be evacuated if deemed necessary by occupants who believe the spill represents a hazard to occupants, the emergency or alternate coordinators, or the Stevens Point Fire Department. The North American Emergency Response Guide (NAERG) may be used to assist in determining safe evacuation distances. A copy of the NAERG is in the University Police squad car, the EHS office and available at the EHS web page on the internet or directly: (http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/erg/emergency-response-guidebook-erg). The UWSP evacuation plan can be found in the UWSP Emergency Management Plan at http://www.uwsp.edu/ehs/emp/.

If evacuation is necessary, the facility fire alarm system will be activated. Personnel will be expected to exit the building using the nearest safe exits. If those who first identify the release can do so safely, they will be asked to post nearby exits to warn occupants to use alternate routes. Personnel will not be re-admitted until an "all clear" has been issued. Instructions on evacuation are provided to the campus community via the Emergency Guidebook.

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#### **TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The Emergency Coordinator shall be responsible for tactical considerations of the hazardous materials response until outside assistance is required, in which case the Stevens Point Fire Department shall assume tactical command. If the Emergency Coordinator determines outside assistance is necessary or is unavailable to consider and make decisions regarding the aspects of response below, the Stevens Point Fire Department shall be notified by calling 911. Aspects to be considered in establishing a safe an effective response plan include and may not be limited to:

Chemical identity	Ability to characterize airborne
Amount	exposure through monitoring or
Toxicity	modeling
Flammability	Ventilation
Reactivity	Wind Direction
Radioactivity	Runoff Direction
Infectivity	Location of Drains or waterways
Personal protective equipment	Exposure pathways and affected
Compatibility with personal protective	population
equipment	Isolation Zone
	Site security
	Environmental impact

#### **CONTAINMENT AND CONTROL**

The Emergency Coordinator will take all necessary measures to contain the hazard within the area and to prevent its spread to other nearby facilities. The Emergency Coordinator shall perform only those duties they have been properly trained for.

In case of a spill, absorbent material compatible with the material released will be placed on the spill. The contaminated absorbent material will be considered to be hazardous waste unless analysis shows otherwise. Hazardous waste will be managed and disposed according to campus and UWSA guidelines.

The emergency or alternate coordinators, in coordination with outside agency responders, will recommend one or more of the following measures to ensure maximum protection of the safety and health of employees and nearby residents: use of appropriate protection equipment, dismiss all non-essential personnel, and evacuation of certain sections of the campus. The emergency operations team will have the authority to execute these recommendations if necessary.

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#### **FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS**

Following containment and control of the emergency, the emergency or alternate coordinators will arrange for collection, treatment and disposal of the waste and contaminated soil, water or other materials by the emergency crew or outside contractor, as appropriate.

The emergency coordinator, assisted by two (2) other qualified persons, will investigate the cause of the emergency and will take steps to prevent a recurrence of such or similar incidents.

The emergency coordinator will make sure that the cause of the emergency has been eliminated and that clean up and restoration have progressed at least to the point of not jeopardizing the health and safety of the employees, and the EPA, State and local authorities have been notified, before permitting resumption of the operations affected by the emergency.

#### **EMERGENCY SERVICE PROVIDERS**

The following agencies have received copies of this plan and will respond to campus emergencies.

- Stevens Point Fire Department (telephone 911): The Stevens Point Fire Department (SPFD) has received a copy of this contingency plan. The Stevens Point Fire Department will inspect university facilities throughout the year and will review fire protection equipment and hazards. SPFD provides confined space rescue service to the campus.
- Stevens Point Police Department (telephone 911)
- Portage County Emergency Management /LEPC (telephone (715) 346-1397 or (715) 346-1400)
- Plover Fire Department & Portage County HazMat Team (telephone (715) 345-5310)
- Plover Police Department
- Waupaca County HazMat Team
- Portage County Sheriff's Office
- St. Michael's Hospital

#### **OTHER RESOURCES**

Other resource agencies include:

- Department of Natural Resources, Wausau Regional Office, Maggie Tischauser, (715) 347-4942.
- Veolia Environmental Services is the state hazardous waste contractor. Contact information is available via the UW-System Web site "Contracts fo Spill Resposnse & Waste Disposal."
- St. Michael's Hospital Emergency Room, (715) 346-5100, 900 Illinois Avenue: The emergency room should be notified anytime a patient with a chemical injury is being transported. A copy of the safety data sheet (SDS) for the respective chemical or other relevant chemical safety information should be delivered with the patient. See Appendix A Campus Map Showing Hospital and Significant Generator Locations.

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UWSA Office of Risk Management,
 Marisa Trapp, Senior Environment & Health Specialist, (608) 262-5656.
 Amy Spohn, Occupational Safety Manager, (608) 262-4792.

### **REQUIRED REPORTS**

The emergency or alternate coordinators will notify the Wausau regional office of the WI DNR (715-359-4522) that follow-up actions have been implemented.

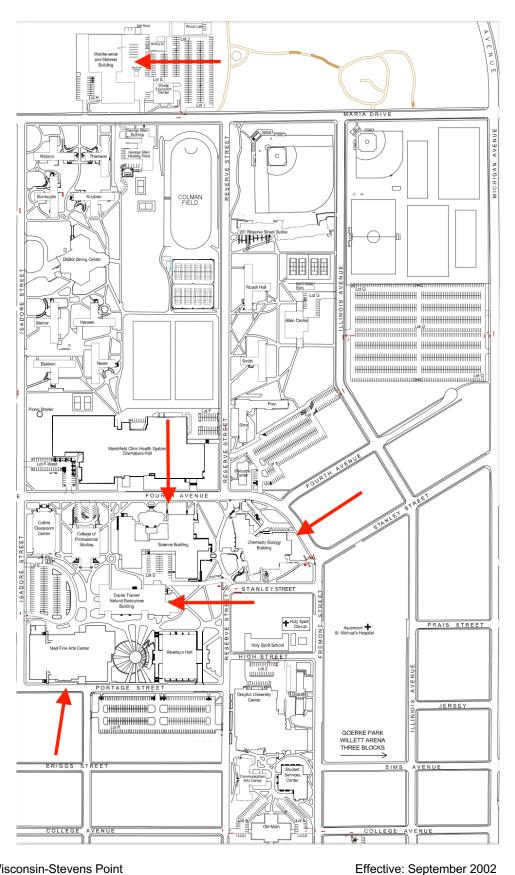
The emergency or alternate coordinator will note in the operating record, the time, date and details of any incident that requires implementation of the contingency plan and will submit a written report on the incident to the department in accordance with NR 665.0056.

The emergency or alternate coordinators will revise this contingency plan in accordance with the experience acquired during each emergency situation and will send copies of the revisions to each holder of the original plan. The plan will also be reviewed annually and edited as necessary.

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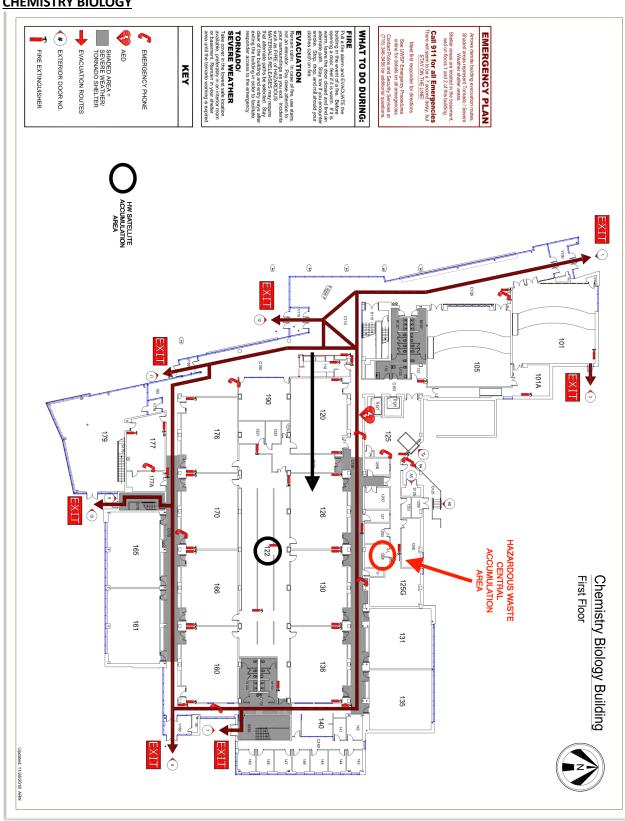
Appendix A – Campus Map Showing Significant Generator and Hospital Locations



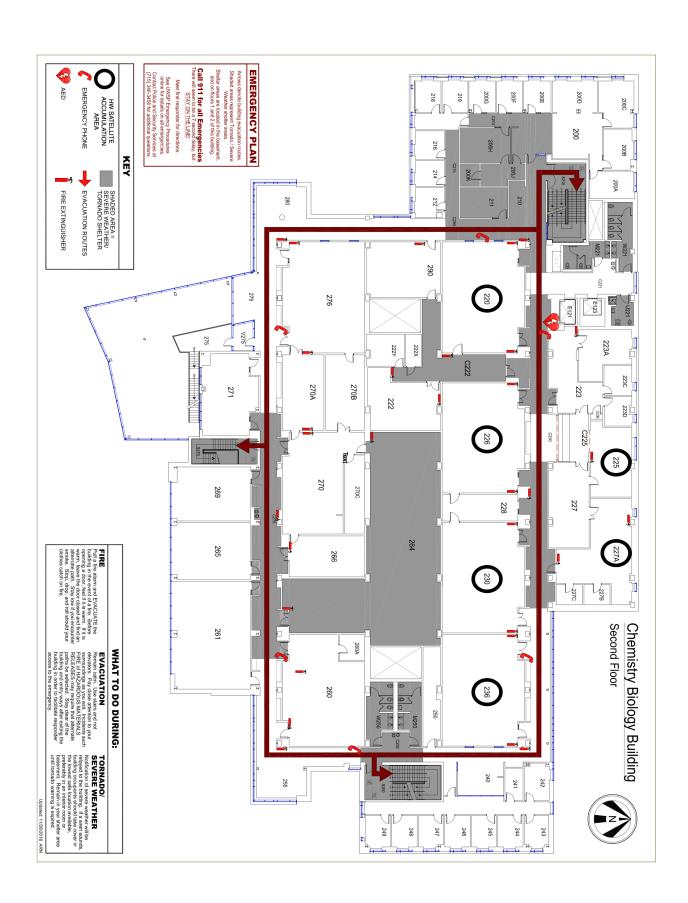
Revised: 19 May 2021

# Appendix B – BUILDING FLOOR MAPS

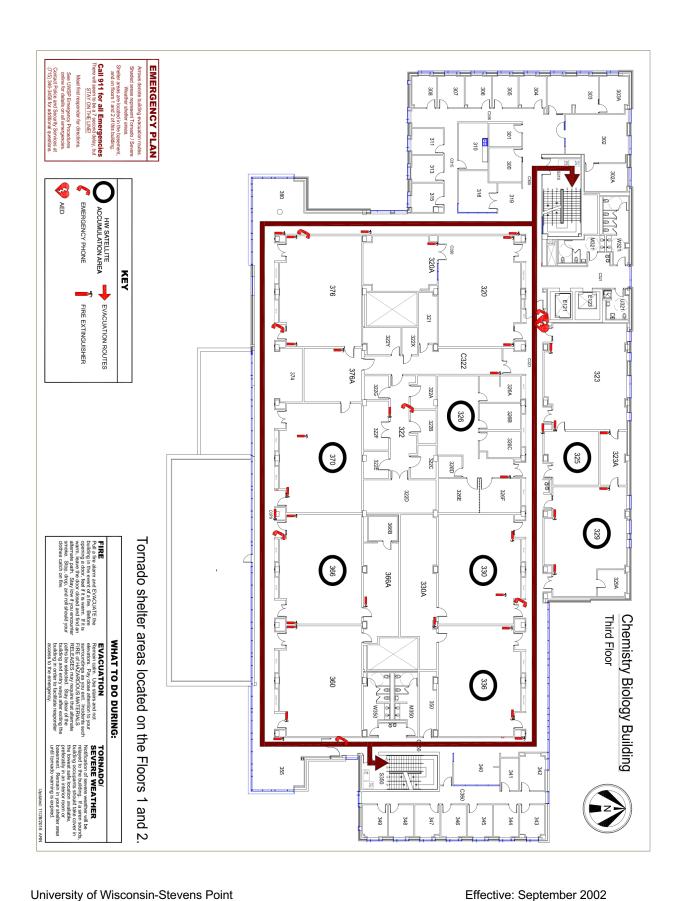
# **CHEMISTRY BIOLOGY**



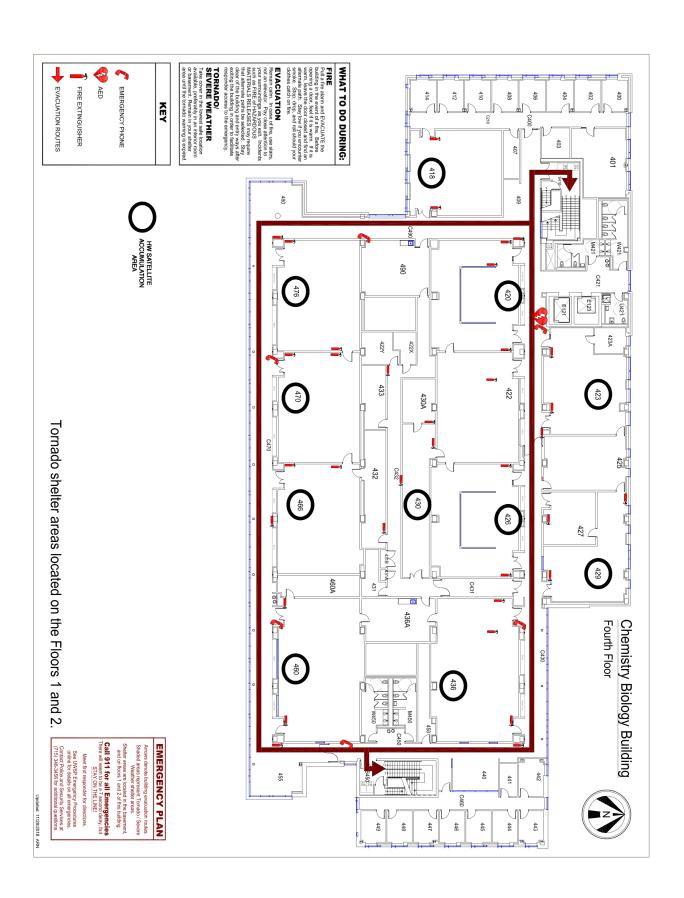
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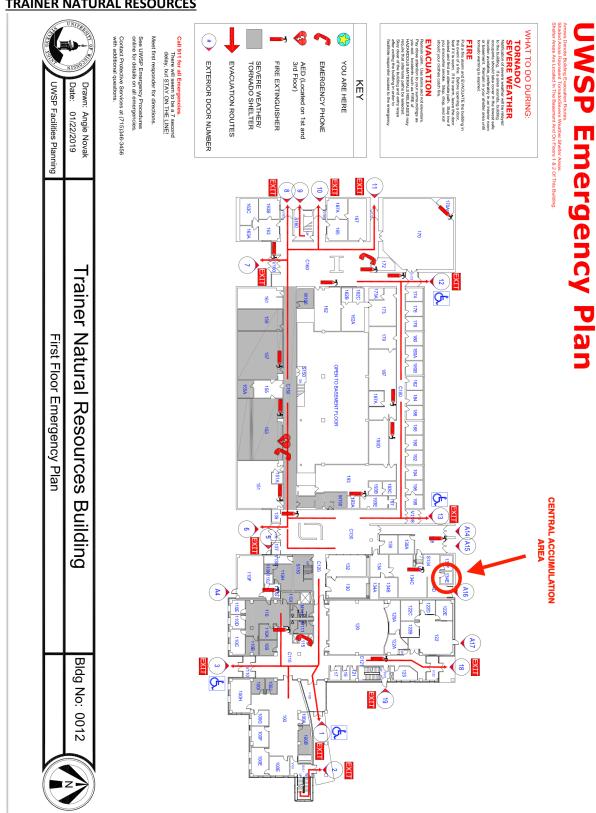


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#### **TRAINER NATURAL RESOURCES**



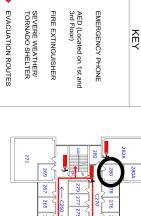
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WHAT TO DO DURING:

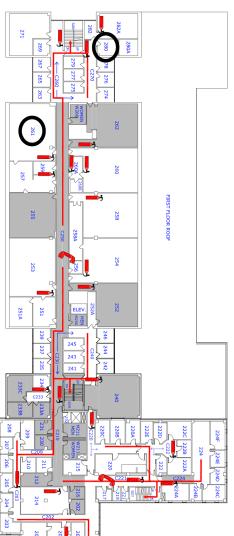


Call 911 for all Emergencies.
There will seem to be a 7 second delay, but STAY ON THE LINE!

HW SATELLITE ACCUMULATION AREA

See UWSP Emergency Procedures online for details on all emergencies. Meet first responder for directions.

ntact Protective Services at (715)346-3456 additional questions.





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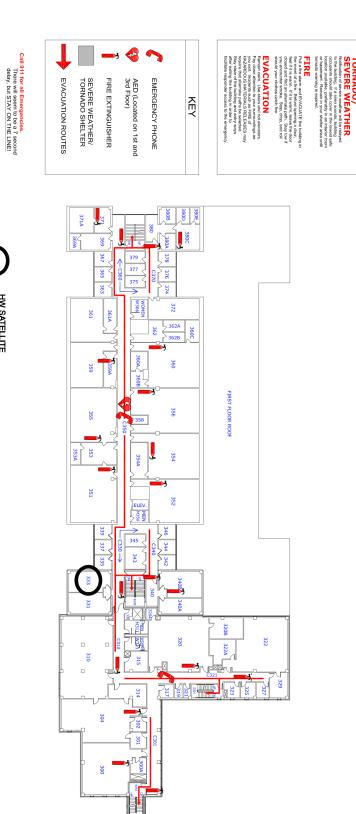


WHAT TO DO DURING:

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Meet first responder for directions.

See UWSP Emergency Procedures online for details on all emergencies.

HW SATELLITE ACCUMULATION AREA

ntact Protective Services at (715)346-3456 n additional questions.

Drawn: Angie Novak
Date: 01/22/2019
UWSP Facilities Planning

rainer Natural Resources

Building

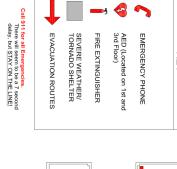
Bldg No: 0012

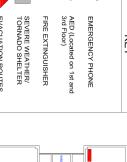
Third Floor Emergency Plan







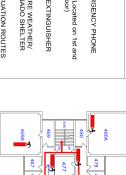


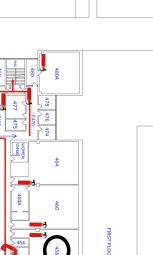






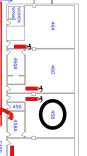






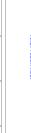


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Contact Protective Services at (715)346-3456 with additional questions. See UWSP Emergency Procedures online for details on all emergencies. Weet first responder for directions.

UWSP Facilities Planning n: Angie Novak 01/22/2019

Fourth Floor Emergency Plan

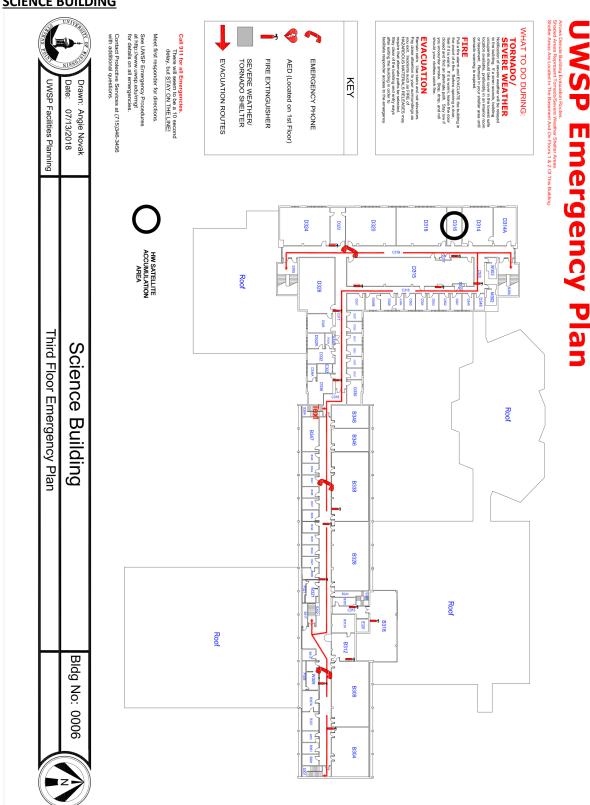
HW SATELLITE ACCUMULATION AREA





Building

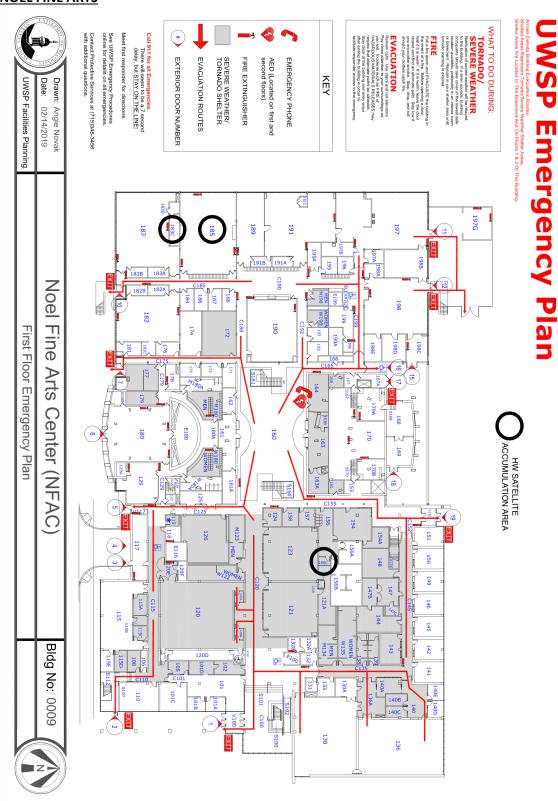
# **SCIENCE BUILDING**



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# **NOEL FINE ARTS**



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# **MAINTENANCE AND MATERIEL UWSP** Shelter Areas Are Located On The Upper And Lower Levels Of This Building. **Emergency Plan** ided Areas Represent Tomado/ ere Weather Shelter Areas. <u>1</u>04 103 102 120C 101 EVACUATION ROUTES Ã, 120G Maintenance and Materiel Building (31) AED SEVERE WEATHER/ TORNADO SHELTER 125A 128 1848 Maria Drive, Stevens Point, WI 54481 125 125B C128 132 WHAT TO DO DURING 130 Updated May 1, 2017 - Angie Henschel 150 139 146 144 172 143 レ 154 155 170 170A Contact Protective Services at (715) 346-3456 for additional questions. See UWSP Emergency Procedures at http://www.uwsp.edu/rmgt for details on all emergencies. Call 911 for all Emergencies. There will seem to be a 10 second delay, but STAY ON THE LINE! Meet first responder for directions 160 <u>1</u>0 25

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## Appendix C – Determining Appropriate Hazardous Materials Response

#### **Procedures for Spills of Volatile, Toxic, or Flammable Materials**

- 1. Warn all persons nearby.
- 2. Turn off any ignition sources such as burners, motors, and other spark-producing equipment.
- 3. Leave the room and close the door if possible.
- 4. Call University Police at 715-346-3456 (on campus phone: ext. 3456) to report the hazardous material spill. University Police will contact emergency response personnel at anytime to respond to hazardous material spills.
- 5. Small spills can be absorbed with paper towels or other absorbents. However, these materials can increase the surface area and evaporation rate, increasing the potential fire hazard if the material is flammable and airborne concentration reaches the flammability level.

#### **Procedures for Chemical Spill on a Person**

- 1. Know where the nearest eyewash and safety shower are located.
- 2. For small spills on the skin, flush immediately under running water for at least 15 minutes, removing any jewelry that might contain residue. If there is no sign of a burn, wash the area with soap under warm running water. Exception: only 5 minutes of flushing for HF burns. Proceed to aggressive antidote gel application as soon as possible. The antidote is the best hope of preventing permanent bone or tissue damage.
- 3. If pain returns after the 15-minute flooding, resume flooding the area (but not for HF spills). When providing assistance to a victim of chemical contamination, use appropriate personal protective equipment.
- 4. For a chemical splash in the eyes, immediately flush the eyes under running potable water for 15 minutes, holding the eyes open and rotating the eyeballs. This is preferably done at an eyewash fountain with tepid water and properly controlled flow. Hold the eyelids open and move the eye up, down, and sideways to ensure complete coverage. Use an irrigator loop to thoroughly flush the conjunctiva under the upper eyelid, if available in your first aid kit. If no eyewash fountain is available, put the victim on his or her back and gently pour water into the eyes for 15 minutes or until medical personnel arrive. If HF is splashed in the eye, flush for 5 minutes and then irrigate the eye with a 1% solution prepared from the calcium gluconate antidote gel.
- 5. For spills on clothing, immediately remove contaminated clothing, including shoes and jewelry, while standing under running water or the safety shower. When removing shirts or pullover sweaters, be careful not to contaminate the eyes. Cutting off such clothing will help prevent spreading the contamination. To prepare for emergencies, shears (rounded-tip scissors) should be available in the first aid kit to allow safe cutting of contaminated clothing.
- 6. Consult the SDS to see if any delayed effects should be expected, and keep the SDS with the victim. Call UP to have the victim taken to the emergency room for medical attention. Be sure to inform emergency personnel of the decontamination procedures used prior to their arrival (for example, flushing for 15 minutes with water). Be certain that emergency room personnel are told exactly what the victim was contaminated with so they can treat the victim accordingly.

#### Incidental Spills-Procedure for Small, Low-Toxicity Chemical Spills

Be prepared. Keep appropriate spill-containment material on hand for emergencies. Consult with EHS to determine which materials are suitable in a particular lab.

Laboratory workers should receive training to distinguish between the types of spills they can handle on their own and those spills that are classified as "MAJOR." Major spills dictate the need for outside help.

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Laboratory workers are qualified to clean-up spills that are "incidental." OSHA defines an incidental spill as a spill that does not pose a significant safety or health hazard to employees in the immediate vicinity nor does it have the potential to become an emergency within a short time frame. The period that constitutes a short time is not defined. Laboratory workers can handle incidental spills because they are expected to be familiar with the hazards of the chemicals they routinely handle during an "average" workday. If the spill exceeds the scope of the laboratory workers' experience, training or willingness to respond, the workers must be able to determine that the spill cannot be dealt with internally. Emergency assistance is provided by Risk Management or an outside agency. Spills requiring the involvement of individuals outside the lab are those exceeding the exposure one would expect during the normal course of work. Spills in this category are those which have truly become emergency situations in that laboratory workers are overwhelmed beyond their level of training. Their response capability is compromised by the magnitude of the incident.

Factors that clearly indicate a major spill are:

- the need to evacuate employees in the area
- the need for response from outside the immediate release area
- the release poses, or has potential to pose, conditions that are immediately dangerous to life and health
- the release poses a serious threat of fire and explosion
- the release requires immediate attention due to imminent danger
- the release may cause high levels of exposure to toxic substances
- there is uncertainty that the worker can handle the severity of the hazard with the PPE and equipment that has been provided and the exposure limit could be easily exceeded
- the situation is unclear or data is lacking regarding important factors.

The following steps shall be followed for incidental spills:

- 1. Alert persons in the area that a spill has occurred.
- Evaluate the toxicity, flammability, and other hazardous properties of the chemical as well as
  the size and location of the spill (for example, chemical fume hood or elevator) to determine
  whether evacuation or additional assistance is necessary. Large or toxic spills are beyond the
  scope of this procedure.
- 3. Contain any volatile material within a room by keeping doors closed. Increase exhaust efficiency by minimizing sash height of the chemical fume hood or activating the emergency purge, if available.
- 4. Consult your SDS, the laboratory emergency plan, or procedures in this document, or call EHS for correct cleaning procedures.
- 5. Obtain cleaning equipment and protective gear from EHS, if needed.
- 6. Wear protective equipment such as goggles, apron, laboratory coat, gloves, shoe covers, or respirator. Base the selection of the equipment on the hazard.
- 7. First cordon off the spill area to prevent inadvertently spreading the contamination over a much larger area.
- 8. Absorb liquid spills using paper towels, spill pillows, vermiculite, or sand. Place the spill pillow over the spill and draw the free liquid into the pillow. Sprinkle vermiculite or sand over the surface of the free liquid.
- 9. Place the used pillows or absorbent materials in plastic bags for disposal along with contaminated disposable gear, such as gloves.
- 10. Neutralize spills of corrosives and absorb, if appropriate. Sweep up waste and place in plastic bags for disposal.
- 11. EHS will pick up the wastes.
- 12. Complete an Incident Report Form describing the spill and send a copy to EHS. A copy may be kept by the department head, if required.

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### **Mercury Spill Procedure**

Mercury is a high-density, low-viscosity liquid at room temperature. During a spill, it can form tiny droplets that adhere to surfaces and enter cracks and crevices. EHS has a mercury vacuum and mercury vapor analyzer available to assist with large or difficult-to-clean mercury spills. In the case of small mercury spills (e.g., mercury-containing thermometers), laboratory personnel should be able to handle the cleanup. Cleanup kits are available from EHS

To minimize the spill hazard, place a splash plate beneath all mercury-containing equipment. Procedures for small mercury spills:

Equipment needed - Mercury Spill Kit from EHS

- Mercury vacuum pump, eyedropper, water or vacuum drive aspirator (optional)
- Chemical amalgam
- Laboratory coat
- Gloves
- Shoe protectors
- Glass or plastic collection container
- Plastic bags
- Wipes or paper towels
- Barricade tape
- 1. Before entering the contaminated area, put on protective clothing.
- 2. Establish a cleanup area and section it off to avoid spreading mercury.
- 3. Draw all visible mercury into a glass or plastic collection container.
- 4. Sprinkle the contaminated area with chemical amalgam. Wet with a little water.
- 5. Wipe up the powder from the contaminated area with a wet towel or a damp sponge impregnated with chemical amalgam. Repeat steps 4 and 5.
- 6. Sprinkle a very light coating of chemical amalgam into the cracks and crevices.
- 7. Dispose of the contaminated solid waste material (such as boots, gloves, wipes, or thermometer glass) in a plastic bag and seal tightly.
- 8. Dispose of the collected mercury and the bags of waste through EHS. Do not bring the waste bag to EHS; it will be picked up from your laboratory. Store the bag in a chemical fume hood until it is collected by EHS.

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