

From: Kim Gates <kim.gates@stonybrook.edu>

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To: undisclosed-recipients;

Subject: Lessons Learned: Check your chemical storage areas!

Lessons Learned: Once again, poor storage practices causes a chemical spill! Check your cabinets! Do not overfill the shelves and crowd in more bottles. Use plastic bins as secondary containment. Make sure all bottles are labeled. Keep incompatible chemicals separated in different bins or different cabinets. All acid, base and volatile chemicals should have parafilm wrapped around the caps. And always have a spill plan that you've practiced and shared with your facilities/custodial staff.

Questions? Check out our web site or email me!

<http://www.stonybrook.edu/ehs/lab/>

GREENBRIER HIGH TO REOPEN WEDNESDAY AFTER ACID SPILL

Tags: us_TN, laboratory, release, response, hydrochloric_acid

<http://www.tennessean.com/story/news/local/robertson/2014/08/12/chemical-spill-closes-greenbrier-high-tuesday/13943343/>

Greenbrier High School will reopen as scheduled on Wednesday after classes were cancelled Tuesday following a chemical spill in the school's chemistry lab, officials said.

Cleanup crews remained at the school until about noon, according to Robertson County Emergency Management Director R.L. Douglas. The spill was comprised of three different acids, sulfuric, nitric and hydrochloric, Douglas said. No ammonia was involved, he added.

"Once we got in there, we put lyme on the chemicals, swept everything up and disposed of it," Douglas said. "The school

is still being ventilated by the Board of Education (as of 5 p.m. on Tuesday). They are letting the fans run for safety reasons, but everything should be good to go in a few more hours.”

Investigators are still trying to determine how the spill occurred.

In a statement, Robertson County School District officials said the spill happened overnight Monday and was discovered early Tuesday morning. A teacher arrived at the building around 7 a.m., noticed a smell in the building, researched it and discovered the spill in the school’s science lab, according to schools spokesman Jim Bellis.

No students were in the building at the time of the discovery, Bellis said. It was not clear how many teachers were inside at the time, but no injuries were reported as a result of the incident, he added.

The chemicals involved in the spill were stored in seven glass and plastic containers and kept in a cabinet in the science lab, Douglas said.

“The door was open and the containers had fallen out of the cabinet onto the floor,” he said. “The floor was tile so the bottles had broken.”

Officials do not suspect foul play, Douglas said.

Robertson County Emergency Management and the Greenbrier Fire Department were called to the scene shortly after the spill was discovered. A third party group was also called to assist in the cleanup, Bellis said.

The spill was contained to the school’s science lab, Douglas said.

“The school’s ventilation system was down for repairs,” he said. “It was shut off yesterday and did not run last night, so the chemicals were not pumped throughout the whole school. They stayed inside that one little room, and they were cleaned very thoroughly, so the danger has been terminated. If there is no physical liquid, there is no danger.”

Kim Gates
Laboratory Safety Specialist
Environmental Health & Safety
Stony Brook University
Stony Brook, NY 11794-6200
Kim.Gates@stonybrook.edu
[631-632-3032](tel:631-632-3032)
FAX: [631-632-9683](tel:631-632-9683)
EH&S Web site: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/ehs/lab/>