

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS RISK MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

RISK REMINDER

PARTNERING WITH TOWNSHIPS

Using Chemicals

What Can Happen

Burns to skin, nose and throat, lungs or eyes; poisoning; rash; chronic illness.

What You Can Do When Using Chemicals

- Keep up-to-date on Workplace Hazardous Chemical Training
- Make sure all containers of chemicals are labelled appropriately.
- Read the labels on chemicals and the safety data sheets (SDS)
 carefully know the special requirements and properties of the chemical you are using.
- Keep all MSDSs close to the chemicals so they are easy to find.
- Use all the personal protective equipment (PPE) recommended on the label as well as any PPE required by your employer.
- Wash your hands after handling chemicals and before eating, even if you were wearing gloves.
- Store chemicals:
 - As recommended by the manufacturer or your employer.
 - In a locked area with posted warning signs
 - Away from food
 - On a shelf at or below eye level
 - In a properly ventilated area or flame-proof cabinet as required.
- Transfer any chemical only to a container of the same chemical.

And Remember

- Do not store chemicals in a fridge that contains food.
- Do not store a chemical in a food container or food in an empty chemical container.
- Do not mix chemicals together.

Did You Know?

- You should receive a training update at least once a year.
- If you work with consumer products (those intended for home use) that contain chemicals, you need to be trained in understanding and following the consumer products labels - ask your supervisor.