

**Policy
406**

**EFFECTIVE
DATE
11-30-18**

**Eugene
Police Department**



Hazardous Material Response

406.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Hazardous materials present a potential harm to employees resulting from their exposure. The following is to be the policy of the Eugene Police Department.

406.2 GENERALLY

a. Hazardous Material Defined

A hazardous material is a substance which by its nature, containment and reactivity, has the capability of inflicting harm during exposure and thereby posing a threat to health when improperly managed. It is characterized as:

- being toxic
- corrosive
- flammable
- reactive
- an irritant or a strong sensitizer.

b. Hazardous Material Response

Employees may encounter situations involving suspected hazardous materials, such as at the scene of a traffic accident, chemical spill, or fire. When employees come into contact with a scene of suspected hazardous material, certain steps should be taken to protect themselves and citizens. Any actions taken should be consistent with annual department training. Safety is paramount.

The following steps should be considered at any scene involving suspected hazardous materials:

1. Attempt to identify type of hazardous substance. (Identification can be determined by placard, driver's manifest or statements from person transporting.)
2. Notify Fire Department.
3. Provide first-aid for injured parties if it can be done safely and without contamination.
4. Make reasonable attempts to contain the scene to avoid new exposures.
5. Begin evacuation of immediate area and surrounding areas dependent on substance.

c. Reporting Exposure(s)

Eugene Police Department personnel who believe that they have been exposed to a hazardous material shall immediately report the exposure to a supervisor.

Injury or illness caused or believed to be caused from exposure to hazardous materials shall be reported the same as any other on-duty injury or illness.

406.3 RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SUPERVISORS

- a. When a supervisor has been informed that an employee has been exposed to a hazardous material, he or she shall ensure that immediate medical treatment is obtained and appropriate action is taken to lessen the exposure.
- b. The employee or employee's supervisor if the employee is unable, will complete a Workers Compensation form and Incident Investigation Form, if an injury is diagnosed (*Oregon Revised Statutes 656.265.*)
- c. If an injury is not apparent but exposure to a hazardous substance is possible, the employee will complete a minor injury log entry

Chris Skinner
Chief of Police