

Emergency! Grab This List

Your three-year-old has just given herself a good dusting from a container of pesticide.

- You finish applying a herbicide, glance at the label, and realize you've doubled the application rate.

- The barn is on fire. Flames are steadily fighting their way toward the chemicals stored in the back.

Whom do you call?

At the top of the list to call for sure should be the appropriate local authorities—the nearest hospital, a poison control center, and your local fire department.

More than likely, local emergency personnel will have—and use—the following list of telephone numbers

for some of the major chemical companies. But having your own list handy couldn't hurt.

CHEMTREC, the Chemical Transportation Emergency Center based in Washington, D.C., is one of the best sources for initial crisis information. A public service of the Chemical Manufacturers Association, this center handles emergency-only questions about spills, leaks, fires, exposures, and accidents.

The center is not prepared to answer questions about swallowed chemicals. Instead, call your nearest poison control center or other medical personnel.

"When you call us, it's similar to calling 911," stresses Howard Manning, supervisor of operations at CHEMTREC. "You have to have an emergency."

Several years ago, when a grain

elevator storage building caught on fire in Aurora, Iowa, there was no doubt that it was an emergency. The building housed large amounts of insecticides, so area firefighters called CHEMTREC.

Emergency responders there gave the firefighters initial information about the chemicals in the building and directed them to call The Dow Chemical Co. emergency hot line for further instructions. Dow's chemicals were involved.

"[Dow officials] were back on the phone with us in a matter of minutes and helped us make decisions at the scene that alleviated any kind of environmental problems," says Wallace Rundle, fire chief from nearby Oelwein, Iowa.

Officials say the hot line system works just as well for an isolated incident on the farm. ■

EMERGENCY! Emergency Numbers for CHEMTREC and Major Ag Chemical Companies

CHEMTREC (Chemical Transportation Emergency Center)

Emergency phone number:

1-800-424-9300

2501 M St. NW

Washington, DC 20037

(Use number only for emergencies, such as spills, leaks, fires, and exposures. No product or other information is given through this line.)

Chemical Referral Center

Phone 1-800-262-8200

(Nonemergency information about chemicals is available through this line.)

American Cyanamid Co.

Emergency number:

1-201-835-3100

One Cyanamid Plaza

Wayne, NJ 07470

(For emergencies, call collect.)

BASF Corp. Chemicals Division

Emergency number:

1-800-832-HELP (1-800-832-4357)

8 Campus Dr.

Parsippany, NJ 07054

Ciba-Geigy Agricultural Division

Emergency numbers:

1-800-888-8372

or 1-800-334-9481

Box 18300

Greensboro, NC 27419

DowElanco

4040 Vincennes Circle, Suite 601

Indianapolis, IN 46268

DowElanco is a recently formed joint venture combining the plant science businesses of The Dow Chemical Co. and Elanco Products Co., a division of Eli Lilly and Co. Until a new DowElanco emergency telephone number is announced, the emergency numbers of its former companies should be used.

These numbers are:

Former Dow Products:

1-517-636-4400

Former Elanco Products:

1-317-276-2000

(For emergencies, call collect.)

Du Pont Co.

Emergency number:

1-800-441-3637

Agricultural Products Dept.

Walker's Mill-5173

Wilmington, DE 19880

FMC Corp.

Emergency number:

1-716-735-3765

Agricultural Chemicals Group

2000 Market St.

Philadelphia, PA 19103

(For emergencies, call collect.)

ICI Americas, Inc.

Emergency number: 1-800-

FASTMED (1-800-327-8633)

Concord Pike and New Murphy

Road

Wilmington, DE 19897

Monsanto Agricultural Co.

Emergency number:

1-314-694-4000

800 North Lindbergh Blvd.

St. Louis, MO 63167

(For emergencies, call collect.)

Rhone-Poulenc Ag Co.

Emergency number:

1-800-334-7577

Box 12014

Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Sandoz Crop Protection Corp.

Emergency number:

1-708-699-1616

1300 East Touhy Ave.

Des Plaines, IL 60018

(For emergencies, call collect.)