

## Central NH HazMat Team- When to Call?

When was the last time your department responded to a HazMat call? I'm guessing you have responded to one or more calls that have involved hazardous materials such as carbon monoxide, gasoline or oil leak, propane or natural gas leak, overturned vehicle or tanker truck, or some type of chemical release in the past year.

So, when do you need the HazMat Team? Something you haven't been trained on or do not have the correct tools to do the job. We're here to assist you. We can consult over the phone or respond if needed. Typically, we are called out for some of the following calls:

- **Large-scale Chemical Spills:** Incidents involving significant spills of hazardous chemicals that surpass the local fire department's capabilities to manage safely.
- **Toxic Gas Leaks:** Releases or leaks of toxic gases, such as chlorine or ammonia, posing a significant risk to public health, requiring specialized equipment and expertise.
- **Hazardous Material Fires:** Fires involving flammable liquids, gases, or materials that can produce toxic smoke, explosions, or spread rapidly, necessitating specialized knowledge and equipment for containment and extinguishment.
- **Unknown or Unidentified Substances:** Encountering substances with unidentified properties or risks, where additional expertise is needed for safe assessment, sampling, and handling.
- **Radiological Incidents:** Hazmat situations involving radioactive materials, including accidental releases, spills, or incidents demanding radiation monitoring, containment, and decontamination protocols.
- **Industrial Accidents:** Hazmat incidents occurring in local industrial facilities, such as chemical plants or storage sites, where the scale or nature of the incident exceeds local resources.
- **Transportation Accidents:** Collisions, derailments, or accidents involving vehicles transporting hazardous materials, such as trucks, trains, or tanker ships, posing significant risks to public safety and the environment, requiring specialized handling and mitigation skills.

Effective documentation of team responses is paramount, particularly when seeking grants. We encourage you to take advantage of our consultation services, as they play a pivotal role in securing future grant funding. The Central NH HazMat Team is a highly specialized unit dedicated to promptly addressing any hazardous substance, be it gas, liquid, or solid, that poses a threat to individuals, the environment, or property. We eagerly anticipate the opportunity to collaborate with you, leveraging our skills and knowledge for mutual success.

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