



## County of Sacramento

# PREPARING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FOR A FLOOD EVENT

Businesses do not have to be located in a floodplain to be flooded by a natural or manmade disaster. Facility owners/operators are liable for any contamination and clean-up caused by a hazardous materials release. **This document has been created to assist facilities in preparing hazardous material/ waste inventories for a flood event.**

### 1. Before a flood, take advantage of services to reduce your stock of hazardous materials.

- Work with your suppliers and hazardous waste vendors to evaluate what you need to keep onsite.
- Qualifying businesses can use household hazardous waste collection facilities (HHW). HHW guidance is available at <https://wmr.saccounty.gov/Pages/HHW-Dropoff-Centers.aspx>
- Reuse and Recycle programs are available for hazardous materials that are no longer needed but can be used for their intended purpose. Contact EMD at the number below for additional guidance.
- Avoid stockpiling hazardous materials.



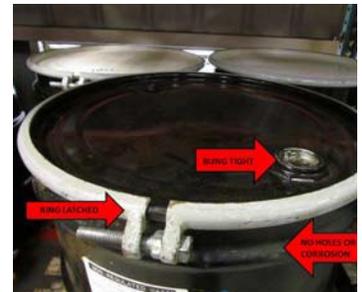
### 2. Know your hazardous materials.

- What hazardous materials are you storing, what are their hazards, safe handling disposal and clean-up procedures? A Safety Data Sheet (SDS) is a useful tool for understanding the hazards of a product.
- Train employees on proper hazardous material identification and clean-up procedures.



### 3. Store hazardous materials properly.

- Label all containers
- Keep products and waste in the original containers, sealed and in good condition
- Secure equipment, supplies and containers to prevent floating.
- If practical and safe, store material inside and/or above flood levels.
- Evaluate flood barriers, flood doors or other flood protection devices. Sandbags are available at <http://www.sacramento-ready.org/Emergencies/Pages/Sandbags.aspx>.



### 4. After the flood.

- Return to business following authorities "ALL CLEAR" notification
- Check for structural damage and other hazards before re-entering
- Remove sandbags. If they are contaminated dispose of properly.

If you have any questions regarding hazardous waste determination, please contact EMD at (916) 875-8550 and ask to speak with an Environmental Specialist.

*The information contained in this (Compliance Assistance Bulletin/Important Notice/Guidance Document) is based upon the statutes and regulations and is intended to provide a basic overview to help achieve compliance. This document does not replace or supersede relevant statutes and regulations and is not intended as legal advice. All interested parties should monitor changes to relevant statutes and regulations for updates.*