

The UFCW Local 75 Health and Safety Department

The goal of UFCW Local 75's Health and Safety Department is to provide workers with the tools they need to address and prevent workplace health and safety hazards. Addressing hazards quickly and appropriately can reduce the number and severity of workplace accidents and illnesses.

In this pamphlet, we're highlighting hazards that can lead to slips, trips, and falls. We've also provided information on hazardous chemicals commonly used in the workplace.

Slips, Trips, and Falls

Slips, trips, and falls are the cause of the majority of workplace accidents.

Potential hazards that lead to slips, trips, and falls include:

- Wet floors and spills
- Cluttered or blocked aisles/walkways
- Power cords that cross the walkways
- Inadequately maintained floors (holes, cracks, loose carpeting, etc.)

Health & Safety Training Courses for Members

UFCW Local 75 has partnered with the International Chemical Workers Union Council to offer health and safety training courses for members. Nationally recognized for its contributions to chemical worker safety, the council's Center for Workers' Health and Safety Education in Cincinnati trains 25-30 local union members each week.

The next available classes will be held July 20-23. If you're interested in attending, please contact Kelly Winston.



Contact Us:

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Avoiding Health & Safety Hazards in the Workplace



Brought to you by the
UFCW Local 75
Health & Safety Department

Slips, Trips, and Falls, continued:

Possible solutions include:

- Wet floors and spills should be reported and cleaned up immediately
- Aisles/walkways are kept clear and in good repair
- Adequate drainage
- Platforms or mats for workers to stand on in wet areas
- Adequate lighting
- Proper floor maintenance to correct uneven floors, loose tiles, bunched or torn carpeting, open drains, etc.

OSHA Requires:

- All passageways, storerooms, and service rooms in places of employment must be kept clean and orderly and in a sanitary condition.
- The floor of every workroom must be maintained in a clean and, so far as possible, a dry condition. Where wet processes are used, drainage shall be maintained, and false floors, platforms, mats, or other dry standing places should be provided where practicable.

Chemicals in the Workplace

Below is a list of common cleaning agents, their ingredients, associated dangers, and precautions to help you determine the hazards and remedies.

AGENT	INGREDIENTS	DANGERS	PRECAUTIONS
BLEACH	Chlorine, sodium, hydroxide, sodium, carbonate, sodium hypochlorite	Can give off poisonous gases if used with other cleaners that contain ammonia. Could cause corrosive burns if swallowed.	Use only in well-ventilated areas. Never use or mix bleach with ammonia. It will release deadly chloramine gas. Always store in locked cabinet.
DISINFECTANTS	Phenol compounds, iodophors, pine oil	May irritate eyes and skin. May cause vomiting, nausea and diarrhea if swallowed.	Use only in well-ventilated areas. Don't use around food. Don't breathe fumes. Always store in locked cabinet.
FLOOR POLISH	Solvents, styrene copolymers, emulsifiers, carbitol or glycol ammonia	Can irritate lungs and nasal passages, skin and eyes.	Use only in well-ventilated areas. Always store in locked cabinet.
GENERAL PURPOSE CLEANER	Detergents, ammonia, ethylene glycol, ether solvent	Those containing petroleum distillates are most dangerous and can cause a fatal lung condition. Cleaners can irritate skin and eyes. Can burn throat and stomach linings if swallowed.	Use only in well ventilated areas. Never mix general cleaning products with bleach or other cleaning products containing chlorine. You may be unknowingly mixing ammonia with bleach. This would release deadly chloramine gas. Use rubber gloves. Dilute the strength with water only. Always store in locked cabinet.
GLASS CLEANERS	Ammonia, alcohol, detergents, coloring agents	Swallowing can cause nausea and vomiting. Can irritate eyes.	Use only in well ventilated areas. Never mix with bleach or other cleaning products containing chlorine. You may be unknowingly mixing ammonia with bleach. This would release deadly chloramine gas. Use rubber gloves. Always store in locked cabinet.
DRAIN CLEANER	Lye, sodium nitrate, sodium chloride	One of the most common and dangerous cleaning products. Penetrates mouth, stomach lining, and skin.	Use only in well ventilated areas. Never use in toilet, dishwasher or garbage disposal because it can damage aluminum or plastic parts and splash back on you if you put directly in waters. Always store in locked cabinet.