



Title: **Large Scale Vermin Droppings Clean Up**

Number	EH&S –1-10	Revision:	6/10/08	Date	10/93	Pages	2
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**PURPOSE:** To establish a mechanism for removing large scale vermin droppings in a safe and efficient manner.

**SCOPE:** Hospital wide.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**Disinfectant:** A 1:10 mixture of household bleach and water, or a Hospital approved disinfectant.

**HEPA:** High Efficiency Particulate Air

**Vermin:** An insect or small animal that is destructive, annoying, or harmful to health, such as rodents and birds.

**PROCEDURES:**

**I. Responsibilities:**

- A. **Employees:** If an employee observes a large scale vermin droppings problem they should report it to:
  - a. Their supervisor,
  - b. UH Physical Plant 4-2400, and
  - c. Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S): 4-6783
- B. **Physical Plant:**  
The Physical Plant shall either clean up large scale droppings in-house or hire a contractor to perform the task.
- C. **Environmental Health and Safety:**  
Perform post-clean up sampling and/or visual inspection within the work area, as necessary. Give clearance for use of work area after clean up.

**II. Clean up Procedures:**

- 1. Notify EH&S and the affected Department Chair/designee of the location, date, and duration for clean up.

2. Shut off the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system prior to clean up operations.
3. Seal any openings leading outside the work area with plastic sheeting.
4. Workers wearing disposable protective clothing, eye protection, and respirators equipped with P100 and organic vapor cartridges, shall wet the droppings with disinfectant solution. This wetting action will keep the dust level down and also kill micro organisms which may be in the droppings.

NOTE: In order for any individual to wear a respirator, he/she must have medical clearance from Employee Health Services. Required respiratory protection training and respirator fit test is provided by the EH&S.

5. Disinfectant must be in contact with droppings for at least 30 minutes to kill micro-organisms. After at least a 30 minute contact time, place the droppings in durable bags and sealed.
6. Dispose of removed droppings as general refuse.
7. HEPA vacuum the area. Wash floors and walls with disinfectant.
8. Wash hands and other potentially exposed areas with soap and water when work completed.
9. Upon approval from EH&S, reactivate the HVAC system.

### **III. Off-site Facilities:**

If a large scale vermin droppings problem is identified in an off-site facility, notify the Off-site Facility Manager at 4-4380 or the Off-site EOC Coordinator at 4-4066 for assistance.

**INQUIRIES/REQUESTS:** Environmental Health and Safety  
HSC, L1-059  
Zip 8017  
Main Office: 444-6783  
Fax: 444-6845

### **RELATED FORMS:**

**RELATED DOCUMENTS:** Respiratory Protection, Policy 7-2