

Fire Suppressant Safety

Below are suggestions and precautions for all categories of wildland fire chemicals and long-term retardants.

Fire retardant contains ammonia and will sting if it gets into cuts or scratches or comes into contact with chapped or sunburned skin.

- Wash thoroughly with gentle soap and water to remove all residues, as many of the fire chemicals are drying to the skin.
- After washing, use a good-quality hand cream to minimize drying and chapping.

Structures (wood, stone, concrete)

Because the chemicals in fire suppressant can be irritating to eyes and skin, wear a long sleeved shirt, nitrile gloves, and safety glasses.

- Start removal efforts as soon as possible.
- Because the suppressant is a chemical mixture that is water soluble, using a garden hose will reactivate the chemical and rinse it off of a surface.
- Do NOT use a pressure washer or bleach as the high pressure will drive the chemical into the surface and the bleach will react violently with the product.
- For more difficult stains, use water and borax, laundry detergent, or dish soap with a nylon (soft) brush to scrub surfaces.
- Restrict water use to prevent puddles that may be attractive to pets.
- Avoid leaving standing puddles of water by using absorbent materials, such as sand, soil, or other materials.

Source: George Matousek, Astaris LLC 810 Main Street Ontario, CA 91761 909-983-0772 for PRODUCT NAME: Phos-Chek® LC-95A, MSDS Number: AST 10097

Vegetation

- Rinse retardant off of vegetation. Avoid leaving standing puddles of water by using absorbent materials, such as sand, soil, or other materials.
- Leaf burn may occur since retardants contain levels of fertilizer higher than what is often sold at garden stores. This causes vegetation and plants to appear dead after contact; however, they will generally recover and grow back - usually within one to two months.
- As with any garden produce, wash fruit and vegetables thoroughly before using.

Pets & Other Animals

- Shampoo thoroughly, as many fire retardant products are very drying to skin.
- Use materials such as sand, soil, or other absorbents to absorb any puddles after shampooing, or in areas where animals may have access.
- Avoid ingestion of water – keep animals away from puddles.
- If your pet appears ill after drinking from puddles or standing water, make sure your veterinarian knows that the animal may have ingested a fertilizer-based product.

