

## **PURPOSE OF DECONTAMINATION**

1. TO PREVENT CROSS-CONTAMINATION OF DIFFERENT SITES USING COMMON EQUIPMENT
2. ENSURE REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLES ARE COLLECTED
3. ENSURE PROPER OPERATION OF EQUIPMENT
4. REDUCE EXPOSE HAZARDS

## **DECON SITE SELECTION**

1. CONTROLLED ACCESS
2. STORE CLEAN EQUIPMENT TO PREVENT RECONTAMINATION
3. CONTROL RESIDUAL MATERIAL REMOVED FROM THE EQUIPMENT

**Table 15.4. Potential Sources of Contamination Associated with Decontamination Procedures.**

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- use of "contaminated" potable water supplies - (i.e., contaminated due to the presence of bacteria, organic compounds, metals, or other objectionable substances)
  - use of contaminated supplies of commercially prepared distilled water (i.e., contaminated due to the presence of plasticizers and organic compounds)
  - contamination of samples with residues of fluids used for decontamination, such as dilute acids or solvents
  - oil spray from unfiltered exhaust from generators used as power sources
  - volatile organic contamination associated with equipment exhaust systems (steam cleaners, generators, support trucks, etc.)
  - use of ethylene glycol (antifreeze) in decontamination equipment (e.g., hot-water power wash spray nozzles and hoses) to prevent freezing in extremely cold weather
  - hydraulic fluids, oils, gasoline, or diesel fuel used to operate generators and other support equipment
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