

LABORATORY & RADIATION SAFETY

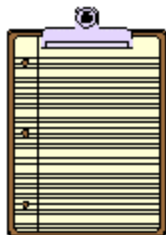
Cornell University Department of Environmental Health & Safety

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NEWS

Fall 2000



RCRA CHECKLIST FOR LABS

1. Do you have an EH&S waste label on each waste container?
Is the label filled out as explained in Section 7.9-11 of the *Chemical Hygiene Plan*?
2. Are the components of the waste in a container clearly labeled?
Abbreviations and chemical formulas are not adequate; the full chemical name must be written.
3. Is there a date on the waste container?
The date should be filled in **only** when the container is ready to be picked up by EH&S.
4. Are all hazardous waste containers kept closed when not in use?
Leaving a funnel in a bottle with the cap off, when waste is not being added to a waste container, is a violation.
5. Are your waste containers in good condition?
Deteriorated waste containers are unacceptable.
6. Are especially hazardous wastes in secondary containment?
This means acutely toxic or highly reactive materials.
7. Are incompatible wastes separated from each other?
Use separate containers for each class or type of waste.
8. Are your waste containers stored in a designated area, such as under or in a fume hood?
9. Are chemical containers in storage in good condition?
Chemicals stored in damaged containers may be deemed "inherently waste-like" and declared waste by an inspector.
10. Are any wastes generated in this lab stored in another location?

Wastes generated in a lab must be under the control of the generator and may be stored only in the local satellite accumulation area.

After completing this short checklist, we suggest that you use the "Chemical Waste Self Audit Form", available on our website (go to www.ehs.cornell.edu and click on "EPA Compliance/Audit", then on "EPA Compliance Action Plan", then on "checklist/instructions".

If you require further information, please contact us by e-mail at chemwaste@cornell.edu.

PREPARATIONS FOR EPA INSPECTION

The University is making significant progress in preparation for a campus-wide inspection by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which the EPA has indicated will begin this fall. The Department of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) is coordinating efforts to comply with EPA's hazardous waste regulation known as RCRA (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act).

Chemical Waste Management

Individuals who use hazardous chemicals must understand Cornell's program for managing hazardous waste and must review their work area for potential violations. Please refer to the EH&S web page (go to www.ehs.cornell.edu and click on "EPA Compliance/ Audit") for information on training and other services. In particular, laboratories need to pay close attention to proper labeling of all chemical containers and removal of old and/or unwanted chemicals.

Recycling of Chemicals, Oils, Batteries, and Fluorescent Light Bulbs

Unused surplus chemicals should be evaluated for recycling via the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology's surplus chemical exchange program. Contact John Terry jht1@cornell.edu for more information.

For information on recycling oils, batteries, and fluorescent light bulbs, contact University Solid Waste Recycling at 4-1666 or recycle@cornell.edu or visit their web page <http://www.fm.cornell.edu/recycling/recyclemisc.html>.

RCRA/CHEMICAL WASTE TRAINING

A key part of compliance with EPA's chemical waste regulations is learning the right way to handle chemical wastes. EH&S has scheduled the following RCRA/Chemical Waste training programs. **No registration is required for these programs.**

| | | |
|---------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Fri. Sept. 15 | 1-2 pm | Lecture Hall 1, Vet. School |
| Wed. Sept. 20 | 9-10 am | G-10 Biotech. Bldg. |
| Mon. Sept. 25 | 1-2 pm | Lecture Hall 1, Vet. School |

RADIATION SAFETY TRAINING

Individuals must receive radiation safety training **prior** to starting work with radioactive materials. Following is the training schedule:

| | |
|---------------|------------------------|
| Sept. 12 & 14 | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon |
| Oct 2 & 4 | 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. |
| Oct. 24 & 26 | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon |

To register please use our online form available on our EH&S Web page, or call the EH&S main desk, at 5-8200. To use the online form go to <http://www.ehs.cornell.edu>, select "Training" and then "Class Registration". Please fill in all fields before you submit your registration.

CHEMICAL SAFETY TRAINING: ON-CAMPUS

The OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, the OSHA Laboratory Standard, and the Cornell University Health and Safety Policy require that all employees receive chemical safety training on the hazards of chemicals and/or chemical products in the work area. At the beginning of employment all employees who work in laboratories should have attended the program "Chemical Safety for Laboratory Workers". Any laboratory worker who has not attended this program in the past should attend one. No registration is required.

| | | |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Mon. Sept. 11 | 1:00 - 4:00 pm | Bradfield 101 |
| Mon. Sept. 18 | 9:00 am - 12 noon | Vet. Lecture Hall II |
| Wed. Sept. 27 | 1:30 - 4:30 pm | Riley Robb 125 |
| Mon. Oct. 9 | 9:00 am - 12 noon | Vet. Lecture Hall II |
| Tues. Oct. 17 | 1:30 - 4:30 pm | Riley Robb 125 |
| Mon. Oct. 23 | 1:00 - 4:00 pm | Bradfield 101 |

CHEMICAL SAFETY TRAINING FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

This is the schedule for "Chemical Safety for Laboratory Workers" intended for undergraduate students. No registration is required. Please attend one of these programs, if you have not attended before.

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Friday, Sept 15 | 10:10 - 11:40 a.m. | Morrison 163 |
| Friday, Sept. 15 | 12:15 - 1:45 p.m. | Morrison 163 |
| Friday, Sept. 15 | 2:25 - 3:55 p.m. | Morrison 163 |
| Thursday, Sept. 28 | 10:10 - 11:40 a.m. | BTI Auditorium |
| Thursday, Sept. 28 | 12:15 - 1:45 p.m. | BTI Auditorium |
| Thursday, Sept. 28 | 2:25 - 3:55 p.m. | BTI Auditorium |

CHEMICAL SAFETY TRAINING

The next **new employee** laboratory worker OSHA Laboratory Standard training programs, "Chemical Safety for Laboratory Workers", will be held in 118 Humphreys Service Bldg. on:

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Wednesday, Oct. 4, | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon |
| Wednesday, Nov. 8, | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon |
| Wednesday, Dec. 6, | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon |

Please contact Veronica Parsons-Zieba by e-mail at vpj4@cornell.edu or by phone at 254-4693 to register, or register on our Web site at <http://www.ehs.cornell.edu>.



Radiation Safety Eagle Awards



We are pleased to recognize the following laboratories for receiving radiation safety awards:

June

G. Aguirre, Vet. Clinical Sciences, Baker Annex
V. Meyers-Wallen, Vet. Biomed. Sci., Baker Annex
D. Gonsalves, Plant Pathology, Geneva
W. Koeller, Plant Pathology, Geneva
J. Doyle, Biological Sciences, Mann Library
J. Baines, Vet. Microbiology & Immunology, VMC
A. Brown, Molecular Medicine, VMC
R. Cerione, Molecular Medicine, VMC
R. Oswald, Molecular Medicine, VMC
G. Weiland, Molecular Medicine, VMC
E. Pearce, Vet. Microbiology & Immunology, VMC
K. Schat, Vet. Microbiology & Immunology, VMC
G. Sharp, Molecular Medicine, VMC
* G. Whittaker, Vet. Microbiology & Immunology, VMC

July

D. Antczak, Equine Medicine, Baker Institute
R. Bell, Animal Health, Baker Institute
* G. Lust, Animal Health, Baker Institute
C. Parrish, Animal Health, Baker Institute
J. Roberts, Molecular Biology & Genetics, Biotech.
V. Vogt, Molecular Biology & Genetics, Biotech.
G. Blissard, Boyce Thompson Institute
S. Howell, Boyce Thompson Institute
G. Martin, Boyce Thompson Institute
H. Mason, Boyce Thompson Institute
S. Quirk, Animal Science (class), Morrison Hall
S. Jones (V. Vogt), Biochemistry (class), Wing Hall
J. Guan, Vet. Molecular Medicine, VMC
M. Roberson, Vet. Biomedical Sciences, VMC

August

D. Stern, Boyce Thompson Institute
A. Bensadoun, Nutritional Sciences, Kinzelberg Hall
C. McCormick, Nutritional Sciences, Kinzelberg Hall
G. Evans, Design & Environmental Analysis, MVR
S. K. Obendorf, Textiles & Apparel, MVR
M. Shuler, Chemical Engineering, Olin Hall
B. Baird, Chemistry & Chemical Biology, S.T.Olin Hall
* R. Levine, Vet. Molecular Medicine, VMC
A. Nixon, Vet. Clinical Sciences, VMC
A. Quaroni, Vet. Animal Physiology, VMC
J. Fortune, Vet. Biomedical Sciences, VRT

* Winner of Meal Deal from Pizza Hut

HASP SIGNAGE

Have you and others in your department used the Hazard Assessment/Signage Program ("HASP") to identify the hazards present in your laboratories and to communicate this information to anyone who enters your labs? Having these HASP door signs in place will communicate to any visitors or inspectors that your laboratory takes safety seriously. For more information, please contact Robin Goodloe at EH&S, by e-mail at jag16@cornell.edu or by phone at 5-5613.