

# LABORATORY & RADIATION SAFETY

Cornell University Department of Environmental Health & Safety

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# NEWS

Spring 2001



## UPDATE ON EPA INSPECTIONS

The first inspection by the EPA of a large university in the New York/New Jersey/Puerto Rico region took place a few weeks ago at Columbia University in New York City. The inspection team consisted of seven inspectors from the US EPA and one inspector from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The inspection began with a meeting with the University's president on a Monday morning. The inspection team remained on campus for seven business days. Inspectors reviewed the campus building by building and floor by floor. Areas that were audited included laboratories, studios, photography dark rooms, and shops. We were told that throughout the process the inspectors offered very little feedback on how well Columbia had met EPA's compliance requirements.

We have heard that, in addition to the inspection of Columbia, the EPA has visited approximately a half dozen other smaller institutions in the New York City area.

## MERCURY CONSOLIDATION PROGRAM

EH&S's mercury consolidation program is ongoing and will continue to make collections of mercury, including mercury thermometers, mercury apparatus, and mercury contaminated materials. If you have mercury to be disposed of, contact our office by e-mail, at [chemwaste@cornell.edu](mailto:chemwaste@cornell.edu). Please give a name, department, e-mail address, and phone number, so that we can contact you to set up a collection date and time. This mercury consolidation program is in place through mid-May of this year, so please contact us soon if you have mercury for pick-up.

## 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 program. **No registration is required for this program.**

Wed., May 9, 9-10 a.m. Lecture Hall III, Vet School

## 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, May 2, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Wednesday, June 6, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

To register please use our online registration form available on our EH&S Web site, or contact Veronica Parsons-Zieba by e-mail at [vjp4@cornell.edu](mailto:vjp4@cornell.edu) or by phone at 254-4693. 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.

An on-campus laboratory safety program will be held on Thursday, April 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Boyce Thompson Institute auditorium. Registration is **not** required for this on-campus program.

## 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](mailto:jag16@cornell.edu) or by phone at 5-5613.



## Radiation Safety Eagle Awards



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

### January

- G. Aguirre, Baker Institute of Animal Health
- D. Antczak, Equine Medicine, Baker Institute
- R. Bell, Baker Institute of Animal Health
- G. Lust, Baker Institute of Animal Health
- J. MacLeod, Baker Institute of Animal Health
- C. Parrish, Baker Institute of Animal Health
- J. Ray, Baker Institute of Animal Health
- \* B. Tye, Molecular Biology & Genetics, Biotech. Bldg.
- D. Wilson, Molecular Biology & Genetics, Biotech. Bldg.
- G. Blissard, Boyce Thompson Institute
- J. Doyle, Plant Biology, Mann Library
- B. Currie, Animal Science, Morrison
- E. Denkers, Microbiology & Immunology, VMC
- R. Levine, Molecular Medicine, VMC
- A. Nixon, Clinical Sciences, VMC
- K. Schat, Microbiology & Immunology, VMC
- J. Fortune, Biomedical Sciences, VRT
- P. Nathanielsz, Animal Physiology, VRT

### February

- G. Martin, Boyce Thompson Institute
- \* D. Stern, Boyce Thompson Institute
- M. Saltzman, Chemical Engineering, Olin Hall
- B. Baird, Chemistry & Chemical Biology, S.T. Olin Hall
- T. Begley, Chemistry & Chemical Biology, S.T. Olin Hall
- A. Bensadoun, Nutritional Sciences, Kinzelberg Hall
- M. Stipanuk, Nutritional Sciences, Kinzelberg Hall
- P. Stover, Nutritional Sciences, Kinzelberg Hall

### March

- C. Aquadro, Molecular Biol. & Genetics, Biotech. Bldg
- M. Hanson, Molecular Biol. & Genetics, Biotech. Bldg
- E. Earle, Plant Breeding, Bradfield Hall
- W. Fry, Plant Pathology, Bradfield Hall
- R. Loria, Plant Pathology, Bradfield Hall
- G. Hrazdina, Food Science & Technology, Geneva
- G. Evans, Design & Environmental Analysis, MVR
- S. Obendorf, Textiles & Apparel, MVR
- A. Brown, Molecular Medicine, VMC
- F. Kallfelz, Clinical Sciences, VMC
- R. Oswald, Molecular Medicine, VMC
- B. Pauli, Molecular Medicine, VMC
- F. Quimby, Biomedical Sciences, VMC
- \* S. Jones, Biochemistry class, Wing Hall

\* Winner of Meal Deal from Pizza Hut



### Radiation Safety Training

Individuals must receive radiation safety training **prior** to starting work with radioactive materials. This training is required by law. The course is given in two separate presentations; both sessions must be attended. There is a short exam, which can be taken either at the end of the second day, or later at our office during normal business hours. *Prior registration for this course is necessary, a seating is assigned on a first come first served basis* Following is the training schedule:

April 17 & 19	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
May 22 & 24	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
June 25 & 27	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
July 24 & 26	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

**To register please use our online registration form available on our EH&S Web site, or contact Veronica Parsons-Zieba by e-mail at [vjp4@dcornell.edu](mailto:vjp4@dcornell.edu) or by phone at 254-4693.** 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.

### ADVANCED RECORD KEEPER TRAINING

This special radiation safety training is held monthly, on the last Friday of every month. It is geared just for those who perform and record the monthly lab meter/wipe test surveys and for those who do monthly reports to reconcile the individual stock vial inventory sheets. The survey class, taught by Chris Bell, is from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., and the inventory class, taught by Marlene Larson is from 2:15 to 3:15 p.m. **Call Agnes Morris at 5-5601 for the class schedule or to register.**

See the tentative schedule below:

Register by:	Class Date:
April 20	April 27
May 18	May 25
June 22	June 29