

# LABORATORY & RADIATION SAFETY

*Cornell University Department of Environmental Health & Safety*

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# NEWS

Summer 2005



## DRAFT REVIEW OF LABORATORY SAFETY MANUAL

EH&S is pleased to announce the second draft of the Cornell University Laboratory Safety Manual and Chemical Hygiene Plan is ready for campus review!

EH&S strongly encourages interested campus members to participate in this important draft review process as this document will be the foundation for the Cornell University Laboratory Safety Program. This document has already undergone a first draft review by EH&S staff members and an external peer group. For this second draft review, please feel free to submit comments on the entire manual or only for specific sections. After the draft review process is complete, the manual will be revised based on the feedback received and then posted to the EH&S webpage.

To access the draft Laboratory Safety Manual, point to:

<http://prp.ehs.cornell.edu/LSM-Secure/LSM-CU.asp>

From this webpage you can access the draft Laboratory Safety Manual and find directions for submitting comments. All comments must be received no later than Friday, September 2, 2005 in order to be given consideration for incorporation into the final version.

Thank you in advance for your participation and feedback in this very important draft review process!



## SHOWER AND EYEWASH MAINTENANCE

Important reminder: Please make sure to flush all emergency showers and eyewashes periodically (at least monthly). We are wrapping up the annual testing of these important safety units and many have failed the inspection. Many failures are attributed to being blocked with sediment from not being flushed. These failed units are unsafe for emergencies and cost the university thousands of dollars each year due to repairs. Flushing these units should not be considered "extra work" or an afterthought, but as a necessary requirement for any chemical use area. Please contact your building coordinator for the location of the emergency shower test kit. Thank you in advance for your help.

## THE CONSULTANTS' COLUMN\*

The summer is a prime time to look at items your laboratories and research areas no longer need. It is also a good time to review your chemical storage areas, update your Standard Operating Procedures, and perhaps attend a few safety training programs. The following checklist may be useful:

- ✓ Minimize and dispose of chemicals that will no longer be used. There are several options for disposing of chemicals; please contact EH&S for further details on this fast, friendly and free service.
- ✓ EH&S is available to help you perform chemical segregations by hazard class.
- ✓ EH&S is available for assistance in writing Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for specific (hazardous) chemical processes.
- ✓ Now may be a good time to utilize EH&S for your safety training needs. Some of the groups offer on-site programs on topics such as laboratory safety, chemical waste disposal, compressed gas safety, centrifuge safety, and SOP writing.
- ✓ Housekeeping. Review your research spaces and look for items such as electrical components, manuals, boxes, and anything else that can be removed to free up space. Minimizing clutter not only increases research space, it is also a prudent practice that makes your workplaces neat and orderly. If an outside agency visits a clean laboratory, chances are the auditing process will go more smoothly.

To access the above services, contact EH&S at 5-8200. We at EH&S are hoping everyone is having a safe and healthful summer! \*This is the fourth column in a series written by the EH&S Laboratory Safety Consultant Andy Schreckengost.

**Laboratory Safety Refresher Training - Prerequisite:**  
"Chemical Safety for Laboratory Workers" Highly recommended for lab personnel who attended the "Chemical Safety for Laboratory Workers" training program more than five years ago. This one-hour refresher course covers health and safety policies and lab safety practices. Please note, this refresher training is not a substitute for the "Chemical Safety for Laboratory Workers" training program--you can check when you last attended it by looking up your training history in SafetyBase (<http://dataworks.fcs.cornell.edu/sb/>).

**Tuesday, July 26 - 2:00 pm, Veterinary Lecture Hall 2**

\*\*\*Please share with your graduate students\*\*\*

## CHEMICAL SAFETY TRAINING

The next regularly scheduled ***new employee*** laboratory worker OSHA Laboratory Standard training program, "Chemical Safety for Laboratory Workers", will be held in 118 Humphreys Service Building on:

**Wednesday, August 3, 9 – 11 a.m., followed by the EPA-Chemical Waste Disposal Program from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.**

The "Chemical Safety for Laboratory Workers" program is also scheduled for:

Tuesday, Aug. 9, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. in Vet Lecture Hall III

Thursday, Aug. 18, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in 118 Humphreys Service Building

Using your Cornell NetID, you can register on-line at <http://www.ehs.cornell.edu/>. Select Training, then **Register Now in SafetyBase**. To use Safetybase, you will need to sign into Kerberos, Side Car, or CUWebLogin to access Cornell University restricted electronic services. If you do not have a Cornell NetID, you can register from the EH&S home page at <http://www.ehs.cornell.edu/>; select Training; select the desired class; then fill out the On-Line Class Registration form, and submit. For help please contact Czora Pagsolangan by e-mail at [cpp5@cornell.edu](mailto:cpp5@cornell.edu) or by phone at 254-4693.



## 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, as seating is assigned on a first come first served basis.* The next Radiation Safety training programs are scheduled for:

**August 17 & 19 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**August 23 & 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**

**September 12 & 14 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

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



## Radiation Safety Eagle Awards



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

### May

**M. Villa-Garcia**, Molecular Biology & Genetics, Biotech

**G. Hess**, Molecular Biology & Genetics, Biotech Bldg.

**L. Kraus**, Molecular Biology & Genetics, Biotech Bldg.

**K. Kempfues**, Molecular Biology & Genetics, Biotech

\* **H. Marquis**, Microbiology & Immunology, VMC

**D. Russell**, Microbiology & Immunology, VMC

### June

\* **J. Baines**, Microbiology & Immunology, VMC

**Biochemistry class**, S. Jones, Wing Hall

**T. Gunn**, Biomedical Sciences, VRT

**M. Kotlikoff**, VM Administration, VRT

**D. Lin**, Biomedical Sciences, VRT

**G. Lust**, Baker Institute for Animal Health

**R. Minor**, Biomedical Sciences, VRT

**A. Nikitin**, Biomedical Sciences, VRT

**N. Place**, Pop. Med. & Diagnostic Sci., Schurman Hall

**A. Quaroni**, Biomedical Sciences, VRT

**M. Roberson**, Biomedical Sciences, VMC

\* Winner of Meal Deal from Pizza Hut

## 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 inventory record-keeping tasks. The survey class, taught by Wayne Westmiller, 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. The next classes are scheduled for Friday, July 29 (register by July 22). **Use our website to register or call Agnes Morris at 5-5600.**

## Newsletter is on EH&S Website

This Laboratory & Radiation Safety Newsletter from the Department of Environmental Health and Safety is located on our EH&S Website. Just point to <http://www.ehs.cornell.edu>, then select "Chemical & Laboratory Safety", and then "Newsletter", or go directly to:

<http://www.ehs.cornell.edu/lrs/labSafety/newsletter.htm>

\*\*\*Please share with your graduate students\*\*\*