

EHS Laboratory Safety Unit Newsletter

March 2021



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Laboratory Safety Training Reminders:

A reminder that all laboratory Faculty, Staff, Students, and Visiting Scientists are required to take annual Laboratory Safety Training. There are 4 different courses based upon the materials and hazards used within your laboratory. Direct links for the training within MyPath and the Student/Visitor portal can be found [here](#).

Also, training records can be found on our [Training Information Webpage](#). Records can be found for both employees and students for both calendar years 2020 and 2021. Records are in excel format and are updated by EH&S staff twice a month. These records are made available to help simplify training verification for laboratories.

Electrical Power Outage Reminder:

Central Utilities will be implementing planned electrical outages for River Campus and the Medical Center April 16th-18th. **All equipment not tied into the emergency generators will lose power during this time.** This planned outage will allow for Central Utilities to utilize a new RG&E substation to supply the power to the University and expand capacity. Power outages are planned for:

- April 16th from 6-6:30am
 - Hutchison Hall, Computer Studies Building, Wilmot, NYS Optics, Hylan Building, Goergen Hall
- April 17th from 6-6:30am
 - Hopeman, Wegmans, Gavett, Bausch & Lomb, Meliora, Taylor, Hoyt, Dewey, Wallis, Interfaith Chapel, Harkness, Schlegel, Todd Union, Strong Auditorium, Lattimore, Lechase, Morey, Frederick Douglas, Rush Rhees Library, Wilson Commons, Rettner, Athletic Center, Fauver Stadium, University Health Services, Medical Center Annex, and most on Campus Student Housing and Dining Centers
- April 18th from 6:30-11am
 - Helen Wood Hall, School of Medicine and Dentistry, Strong Memorial Hospital, R Wing Psychiatry, S&GG Wing, Access Center, Ambulatory Care Facility, Parking Garage, Kornberg Medical Research Building, Levine Pavilion, Rotoclave, Emergency Department, ED Tent, James P. Wilmot Cancer Center

Laboratory Safety Unit

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It is the expectation of EH&S and the University that laboratories are not operational and that no research takes place during this time. To ensure the safety of your lab and the equipment within your lab, please ensure the following the night before the shutdown:

1. Ensure that no overnight reactions are conducted within the chemical fume hoods.
2. Ensure that all waste containers and bottles within the fume hoods are completely closed.
3. Ensure that all fume hood sashes are fully down to the airfoil sill (completely closed).
4. Ensure that all electrical equipment (anything with an electrical cord) is turned off and **unplugged**. Although Central Utilities is not anticipating a power surge, it is a possibility and preventative measures should be taken. This includes, but not limited to:
 - a. All computers, monitors, and electronic racks
 - b. All biological safety cabinets
 - c. All lasers and supporting equipment
 - d. All shakers, sonicators, balances, rotovaps, solvent recovery systems, microtomes, etc.
 - e. Analyzers, HPLCS, microscopes, scintillators, etc.

Emergency Generators will be running prior to the planned outages. If you have any questions regarding the shutdown, please reach out to Barry McHugh for River Campus, or Mike Rink for the Medical Center.

Questions Regarding the matching PPE Question in MyPath Laboratory Safety Training:

We have received many questions regarding the matching PPE questions within this year Laboratory Safety Training. The intent was to match common Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) with primary hazard it guards against. Unfortunately, full supporting information regarding PPE was not provided in the review materials. Even worse, Learning Development cannot change or add to the course once published. Therefore, we have provided the supplementary information on our website [here](#). The answers to this question are the following (left hand column, then right):

1. Goggles - vapors
2. Face shield - splashes
3. Safety glasses - impact
4. Insulated orange cloth gloves - heat resistant/protection for ovens
5. Blue cryogenic gloves - cold
6. NOMEX lab coat - flammable materials
7. Standard lab coat - general chemistry/ reagents/materials

This question and the supporting information will be heavily revised and clarified for next year. We apologize for any confusion. Meliora!

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Chemical Inventory:

The LSU inventory team is now inventorying laboratories on the 3rd floor of the School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Our team is expected to be on this floor for a few months. This is a good opportunity for all labs in the medical center to go through their chemical inventories and dispose of anything that is expired or no longer in use. Our teams work, in groups of two or three, for three-hour time blocks on Tuesdays and Thursdays afternoons. We go through every chemical in the lab and inventory those that are hazardous. Following the initial inventory, the labs are responsible for maintaining their inventories by adding and removing chemicals from Chematix. Annual reconciliation of all chemicals in the lab is required and is verified during regularly scheduled safety inspections.

Chematix Office Hours:

Environmental Health and Safety's Laboratory Safety Unit will be hosting help sessions through Zoom **every other Wednesday at 3pm** to answer any and all questions you may have about hazardous waste and chemical inventories. Our upcoming dates are as follows: **Zoom ID: 958 2224 1501**

March 25th
April 7th
April 21st
May 5th

Can't wait?
Contact **Abby Davis** at
abby.davis@Rochester.edu



Please see the attached [flier](#) for more information.

Reconciliation:

Reconciliation **MUST** be completed annually following the initial inventory entry. Reconciliation compliance will be checked at annual inspections.

1. Scan all chemical barcodes into a simple text document (Notepad, TextEdit, etc. NOT Microsoft word)
2. Open Chematix
3. "Resources" tab
4. Under "Manage Locations" select "View My Locations"
5. "Upload Scanned Chemical Barcodes"
6. Paste barcodes and "Send to Chematix"
7. Manage Discrepancies
8. "Complete Reconciliation"

View full instructions [here](#)

Biological Safety Cabinets – Certification and Servicing:

The university-wide blanket PO process can no longer be used due to transitioning into workday (P2P). Updated instructions and vendor contact information for the University approved vendors are [here](#).

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Important Updates for those working with Biological Materials:

Shipping Biologicals and Dry Ice policy/procedure – 2021 updates; quick reference for import, export

- International Air Transport Association – the section that helps classify biologicals has a new web link www.iata.org/contentassets/b08040a138dc4442a4f066e6fb99fe2a/dgr-62-en-3.6.2.pdf
- US Department of Transportation (DOT) - Dried blood spots from people with infectious disease(s) can be shipped as 'exempt human specimens'
- CDC updated their online training documents. So did DOT.
- Quick reference for import, export – Want a faster way to determine if your shipment requires a permit or license to clear Customs? Appendix 1 (Summary/Worksheet for shipments) has new checklists for import, export.

A decade in the making - CDC/NIH published a new version of Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories. <https://www.cdc.gov/labs/BMBL.html>

- The most notable change for UR labs will be new BSL2 door signs (coming soon!) PPE and occupational health requirements for personnel handling agents are being added to the BSL2 door sign.
- Additions that impact all BSL1 and BSL2 labs:
 - Avoid recoil when uncapping needles
 - Include in the safety manual how to respond to “facility malfunctions”
 - “For infectious materials, the outer surface of the container is disinfected prior to moving materials and the transport container has a universal biohazard label.”
 - The IBC discussed whether this would be required for red totes – no, this would only be required if there was contamination on the outside of the toter.
- The following UR documents have been updated accordingly:
 - EH&S policy/procedure “Biosafety Level Requirements for BSL1, ABSL1, BSL2, ASBL2, BSL2+ or ABSL2+ (BS020)” <http://www.safety.rochester.edu/labbiosafe/BSReqResource.html>
 - ‘Lab-Specific Sharps Safety Plan for nonhazardous or chemical-contaminated sharps’ <http://www.safety.rochester.edu/labsafety/subjectindex.html>
 - EH&S Lab Safety Checklist/ Laboratory Site Specific Compliance Checklist for Personnel – December 2020 <http://www.safety.rochester.edu/labsafety/pdf/SiteSpecificComplianceChecklist.pdf>

LSU Webpage Reminder!

Our webpages offers important program information, guidance, and compliance documentation provide. Highlights include sections for New Principal Investigators, a material request form, and a streamlined Chematix section. Also included is a clear listing of the EH&S Departmental Safety Specialists informing PI’s and lab members of who to contact for inspections and general safety questions. A good place to start is our [Homepage](#) or our [Safety Central](#) page.

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